



Alan Osmundsen, 59

Staten Island Advance By **Staten Island Advance**

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Alan Osmundsen, 2006
Family photo

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Alan Osmundsen, 59, of Pleasant Plains, a retired FDNY firefighter, former New York Mets catcher and bullpen coach, baseball enthusiast and devoted family man, died Friday in New York Presbyterian Hospital, Manhattan.

Born and raised in Richmond Valley, he graduated from Tottenville High School, where he was a catcher on the varsity baseball team. He was drafted by the New York Mets right out of high school, and played for the Marion, Va., farm team before going to play AA ball in Florida. He then came to New York where he was a bullpen coach for the Mets until 1980. He was the youngest coach in the majors, family said.

Mr. Osmundsen attended Wagner College, Grymes Hill.

He worked briefly as a salesman while waiting for his appointment to the city Fire Department. He was a firefighter for 11 years, assigned to Engine Co. 284 in Brooklyn, until retiring in 1999.

Mr. Osmundsen loved to share his baseball knowledge with others, and continued coaching, teaching hitting, pitching and catching skills.

He enjoyed the outdoors and liked boating and deep-sea fishing. He was very family-oriented and enjoyed attending his children's sporting events. He also was fond of vacations at the family's home in Ocean City, Md.

He attended Tottenville Evangelical Free Church.

Surviving Mr. Osmundsen are his wife of 25 years, the former Diane Schuler; his daughter, Kaitlin Osmundsen; his son, Christian; his mother, Lois Osmundsen, and two sisters, Lois Osmundsen and Lori Ippilito.

The funeral service will be Monday at 8 p.m. in the John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Eltingville. Arrangements include cremation.

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