



## Jeff Morris

August 31, 1960 - May 25, 2026

### Jeff Morris Obituary

Soccer coach, entrepreneur, world traveler and inspiration to many aspiring young soccer players, Jeff Morris departed this mortal coil on Monday, May 25, 2026. Trained as a teenager to be a goalkeeper by Hungarian legend Geza Henni and always a vocal presence on the field, Jeff is undoubtedly now working between the pipes for his celestial teammates and bilingually barking orders at Pele and Diego Maradona to 'mark their men.' He was 65.

Albert Camus said "The little of morality that I know I learned it on the soccer fields...which remains my true university." Jeff absorbed valuable lessons on the pitch and built an athletic institution, World Cup Soccer Academy, where he spent his life teaching children around the globe the beautiful game while maintaining an unwavering focus on sportsmanship and respect.

Born in Syracuse, NY on August 31, 1960, Jeff was raised by his loving parents and role models, Robert and Irma Morris. Moving to Pittsfield, MA at age 12, he formed a deep bond with nature that lasted a lifetime. He and his high school cohorts built a log cabin in the woods of Washington Mountain, where they developed a woodsman's bond with the legendary hermit of the Berkshires, Henry Strong. It turns out when given the chance, hermits can be quite chatty.

The Berkshire Mountains were simply too convenient for Jeff to resist the lure of 7 day a week skiing. He developed his downhill skills and became a ski instructor at Bosquet Mountain, eventually taking up ski jumping, cross country and competing in Alpine races. He always described the ski mountain as his happy place.

His soccer roots took hold during these formative years and he was inducted into the Berkshire County Soccer Hall of Fame in 2016. He also captained the Muhlenberg College soccer team in the early 1980s. Ultimately, Jeff combined his love of soccer and travel, and found himself adventuring to Patagonia, Galapagos, Germany, Belize, The Andes and Costa Rica, generally finding his way onto the pitch where ever he went. He even had a brief stint living with a native tribe in Panama, as he built a reputation for taking the path less traveled.

Mr. Morris was named Best Dancer in his high school class and was known to bust a move at the drop of a hat. He also considered himself a world-class competitor at rock-paper-scissors. Jeff's entrepreneurial spirit gave birth to a variety of ventures, including travel company Adventure Alternatives, Pepper's Café, WCUPSA, Central League Soccer and Central League Events. His parting message to the wide community of soccer aficionados and other supporters was 'Play on.'

He is survived by his partner and love of his life, Heidi Meertz, her three children Sophie, Isabelle and Julie, his brothers Robert and Richard, sister in laws Mary Helen Morris and Anne Morris and nieces and nephews, Elizabeth, Robert, Sarah, Wilson, Natalie, Caroline and Luke. He is predeceased by his brother Scott and his parents Irma and Robert.

Visiting hours will be held Monday from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Chadwick &

McKinney Funeral Home, 30 E. Athens Avenue, Ardmore, PA. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Fresh Air Fund [www.freshair.org](http://www.freshair.org)

# Upcoming Events

## The family will receive guests

JUN 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home, Inc.  
30 East Athens Avenue  
Ardmore, PA 19003  
(610) 642-6303