

IN MEMORIAM

The Town of Kill Devil Hills expresses its deepest sympathy that former Kill Devil Hills Mayor Raymond Paul Sturza, II, has passed away.

Born April 3, 1953, Ray Sturza achieved a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and a Master's of Science in Planning/Public Administration from East Carolina University. Prior to working for the Town of Kill Devil Hills, he served as the Planning Director for Washington County, North Carolina, where he oversaw development of its Land Use Plan.

Mr. Sturza began working with the Town of Kill Devil Hills in September 1982 as the Town Planner, and was promoted to the Town's first Planning Director in 1985. Some Town accomplishments during his tenure include a Coastal and Estuarine Water Beach Access Award from the Office of Coastal Management, overseeing the development of the KDH Public Beach Access House (now what is the Ocean Bay Regional Bathhouse), and an award to the Town of a coastal and estuarine water beach access grant through the N.C. Coastal Management Program. He contributed to the "Cities on the Beach" conference on the Management of Developed Coastal Barriers, sponsored by the Land and Water Policy Center of the University of Massachusetts. Mr. Sturza also completed State of North Carolina training in the proper administration of the minor development permit program under the Coastal Area Management Act.

In 1987, he began his service in the Dare County Planning Department as the Planner until he was promoted to the County's Planning Director in 1990. He retired in October 2010, and served as a consultant in later years.

His appointed and elected service to the Town of Kill Devil Hills began when he was appointed as an alternate member to the Planning Board in 1989. He served as a member on the Planning Board until March 2003, when he was appointed to the Board of Commissioners following a member's resignation. Luck was on Mr. Sturza's side when he won a coin toss to be appointed Commissioner, and was subsequently elected and reelected to fill the position. He was elected by the Board to serve as the Town's Mayor *Pro Tem*. Mayor *Pro Tem* Sturza was then appointed by the Board as Mayor of Kill Devil Hills on January 16, 2007, to fill the unexpired term for the Mayor's seat due to the resignation of the then-Mayor. He then served for two additional terms as Mayor through December 2011.

A funeral service will be held for former Mayor Sturza on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Redeemer by the Sea Catholic Church in Kitty Hawk.