



## Obituary

**Died:** Thursday, June 14, 2018

Michael Paul Schambach, Loving Husband, Father, Friend and Coach

Bridgewater – Michael Paul Schambach, 38, entered eternal life, peacefully and gallantly, on Thursday, June 14, 2018, surrounded by his loving family.

Viewing services will be held at The Immaculate Conception Church located at 35 Mountain Avenue, Somerville, NJ on Monday, June 18th from 3-8PM. All are welcome. The mass of Christian Burial will be offered for family and close friends on Tuesday, June 19th at 10am at The Immaculate Conception Church in Somerville, NJ. Burial will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery located at [145 Mount Airy Road, Basking Ridge, NJ](#). While we know Mike's body will be laid to eternal rest, his spirit will forever be on the field, coaching us all from heaven.

Michael was proud to be born and raised in Bridgewater, NJ, as the youngest of four children; sister, Mary, brother, Christopher, and twin brother, Philip, to proud parents, Charlie and Elizabeth Schambach. Mike fondly remembered his childhood, that of an all American boy. From traveling cross country in a motorhome; visiting the Grand Canyon and countless cousins along the way, to summers spent at Woodloch Pines, with his dear family friends. He often spoke of the middle school rivalries, between Hillside and Eisenhower, where at a young age, the stories displayed Mike's competitive nature, whether that was Middle School Orchestra where Mike played the violin, or Middle School Wrestling, not only competing with his twin brother, Phil, on the mat, but also against his future brother-in-law, Joe Cullinan.

Mike was a 1998 graduate of Bridgewater-Raritan High School and an acclaimed athlete in soccer, ice hockey and lacrosse. Mike and his twin brother, Philip Schambach, dominated the field with the 1998 Panther's Lacrosse team, leading Bridgewater Lacrosse to its first-ever undefeated season (19-0) and State Championship Title. Throughout his time at Bridgewater, Mike made many dear friends and was coached by many special coaches who made a profound impact on Mike's life. In the words of one of his favorite coaches, "Mike was considered the best face off man in the state. He was named 1st Team All State, but this only scratches the surface of what Mike meant to the team. Toughness, leadership and selflessness, were a huge part of Mike's legacy."

Mike proudly attended and earned his degree from Rutgers

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## Service Summary

### Visitation

3:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Mon Jun 18, 2018

### Immaculate Conception Church

35 Mountain Avenue  
Somerville, NJ 08876

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### Mass of Christian Burial

10:00 AM Tue Jun 19, 2018

### Immaculate Conception Church

35 Mountain Avenue  
Somerville, NJ 08876

University studying History, where as a Scarlet Knight he won over 60% of his face offs; though he was most proud of the friendships he made with the brothers that stand by him still today.

Mike was one of the founding players of the Empire United Soccer Club that was established in 1999. Mike led the team to many Garden State Soccer League titles, but most importantly, would easily be considered by everyone he played with to be their favorite teammate of all time.

Even after Mike's time as a Scarlet Knight came to a close, he continued to actively control the "X" and enjoy the games he loved with Phil and his dear friends, and continued to play lacrosse on an active basis. Whether it was a weekend tournament down the Jersey Shore, or a Sunday afternoon game in Central Jersey, with former teammates and players he mentored, Mike's competitive desire and tranquil demeanor could always be felt, and all of his teammates cherished their time on and off the field with him. Specifically, Mike's post-collegiate lacrosse adventures were spent with Universal Lacrosse (the original Buda Bar) in the Jersey Shore Summer Lacrosse League and Leading Edge with the American Lacrosse League, and both teams were comprised of three of Mike's favorite walks of life: his family, his teammates, and the players he coached. In addition, another one of Mike's valued initiatives was supporting the military, which he was able to proudly put on display as a member of Team USO Lacrosse and where his tenacity on the field was even more integral in their fundraising vertical.

Due to the profound impact his coaches had on him, Mike knew that his path in life was to help young athletes excel, and he began coaching immediately.

He began his coaching career in 2005 as the Assistant Men's Lacrosse coach at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, NJ, and worked full time as the Assistant Director of Alumni Relations. Mike spent 7 years proudly coaching the Bull Dogs to a 2009 MAC Championship and NCAA tournament Appearance. But Mike's time at FDU will mostly be remembered by the profound impact he left on his players. His FDU family continued to surround Mike throughout the rest of his life, in golf outings and alumni games.

In January 2010, Mike married the love of his life, Lindsay Cullinan, at Immaculate Conception church in Somerville, NJ. They began their life together living locally in the community near and dear to them both – Raritan, NJ and currently in Bridgewater, NJ.

In 2012, Mike became the Head Men's Lacrosse Coach at DeSales University in Center Valley, PA. As a young head

coach, Mike led the team with passion and heart, building a family with his young team.

One of Mike's most important goals in life was to build a family of his own with his wife, Lindsay and that dream came true in April of 2014. Mike and his wife happily welcomed their first child, son Cameron, who quickly became the center of Mike's world.

In 2014, desiring to be closer to home, Mike became the Men's Head Lacrosse coach at Montclair State University where he proudly coached for four years. His players and their families, the staff and his fans, will never forget Mike's final home game at Montclair State. In the pouring rain, Mike coached his heart out on the sidelines, never giving up, his courageous heart on full display. At the end of the third quarter, MSU was down, 8 – 5. After a rain delay (and an epic locker room talk) the Red Hawks battled back to score 6 goals in the final quarter, beating Scranton 11-10 in the final minute. Mike was a fighter, and he never gave up. Mike was all heart and head. His coaching legacy is one of honor, integrity, and patience. Mike's final season ended on May 4, 2018.

On May 7, 2018, Mike and Lindsay welcomed their second child, Chloe Michelle. Chloe spent the first month of her life, almost always in Mike's arms. Mike fought every day of 2018, to spend every second with his team, with his family, and with his friends, and his children.

Mike will live on through the lives of those he forever touched and left here on earth. He is survived by his wife, Lindsay Cullinan Schambach, his son Cameron Joseph (4), his daughter Chloe Michael, (1 month), his parents, Charles and Elizabeth, his brothers, Philip J. Schambach and wife Christine, and Christopher Schambach, his sister Mary Schambach Perkins and husband, Quinn Perkins, his nephews and nieces, Quinn Perkins (14), August Perkins, (10), Charlotte Schambach (2), and Henry Schambach (11 months), and in laws, Nancy, Joseph, Heather and Jeffrey Cullinan. Mike was a beloved son, brother, husband, uncle, nephew, cousin, father, coach and dear friend.