

Cancer patient who won lottery dies

by UPI

NAPLES, N.Y. - Wayne Schenk, a cancer patient who recently won \$1 million in the New York State Lottery, has died. He was 51.

Schenk, who died Monday, won the payout a few weeks after being told he had less than a year to live in December 2006, ABC News reported Thursday. He had hoped to use the winnings to find expensive treatments for his lung cancer, but he was unable to convince the New York State Lottery to pay in a lump sum rather than \$50,000 annual payments.

The support of friends, a New York state assemblyman and wide media exposure were also unsuccessful in convincing care facilities to accept the lottery winnings as payment.

"He wasn't ready to die, that's for sure," longtime friend Nick Pascazi told ABC News. "It was a terrible, terrible thing. You win a million dollars and you don't spend it. How's that?"

A memorial for Schenk is scheduled for Friday at St. Januarius church in Naples, N.Y.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, whom he married April 4.

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