



Ward Corkran

June 3, 1931 - November 7, 2018

Woodward Withgott Corkran, Jr. passed on peacefully, with family present, on November 7, 2018. Ward lived with his wife, Betsey, at Dunwoody Village in Newtown Square, PA.

Born in Philadelphia, PA on June 3, 1931, Ward was a student at The Haverford School for many years, before graduating from The Hill School in 1949. Throughout his lifetime, he continued as an active member of the Haverford Class of '49 as well as his Hill School class. Always interested in aviation, Ward got his pilot's license while a student at Yale. With the Korean War raging, Ward left Yale in his sophomore year and enlisted in the Air Force. He got his wings at Columbus, MS and was sent to England just after the armistice was signed. Subsequently, Ward was the co-pilot of the first jet bomber, the B-45, with a crew of four, which carried an atomic bomb. During this Cold War period, knowing that the American planes had the A-bomb served as a deterrent to the Russians for crossing clearly established European territorial lines.

Mustered out of the service in 1956, Ward returned to Yale and graduated with the Class of 1958. Following graduation, he married Betsey Schaefer, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke college, whom he met on a blind date. The couple settled in Pennsylvania, where Ward worked with Synthane Corporation, a plastics manufacturer, for many years, before establishing the Suburban Rod and Gun Service in Villanova, PA. An avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and hunting, Ward and Betsey spent summers with their family on Lake Megunticook in Lincolnville, Maine, where he could pursue his interests. Ward's passion for woodworking led him to create many pieces of furniture, toys and games for family members and friends.

Ever the gentleman, Ward enjoyed being with friends at the Merion Cricket Club, where he played tennis for many years. He was also a member of the Valley Forge Gun Club; the Megunticook Golf Club in Rockport, Maine; and the Bushkill Rod and Gun Club.

Ward is survived by his loving wife, Betsey, of 59 years; two children, Susan Corkran Hutton (James); Woodward W. Corkran III (Jennifer Kinkead); four grandchildren: Grace

McMullan (Drew); Benjamin Hutton; Henry Corkran; Natalie Corkran; and a sister, Anne Corkran Nimick, as well as several nieces and nephews. Ward was the son of Woodward Withgott Corkran and Elizabeth Gribbel Corkran.

A memorial service for Ward will be held on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at The Church of the Redeemer in Bryn Mawr at 2:00 p.m. Interment is private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Haverford School, (www.haverford.org); to the National Wildlife Federation (www.nwf.org) or to a charity of your choice.

Cemetery

Adjoining Churchyard

PA,

Events

**NOV
20**

Memorial Service

02:00PM

Church of The Redeemer

230 Pennswood Road, Bryn Mawr, PA, US

Comments



“ Stephen & Lynne purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ward Corkran.



Stephen & Lynne - November 16, 2018 at 10:30 AM



“ Dear Susan & Jim, Grace & Drew, Ben & Lara,

You have been very much in our thoughts these past days, as we consider you all together with Betsey and the extended family, preparing to celebrate Ward's life, and comforting one another with the lifetime of memories and stories.

It must be an exhausting time, with a lot to do in preparation for his memorial service tomorrow. I think I have been to this church and I'm sure it will be a marvellous tribute to Ward, and to your family's love and unity. My memories are of a warm and friendly man who welcomed me to your home in County Line Road as a child, and took pleasure in our two families being able to share time, despite the challenge of distance between Philadelphia and New Zealand. He and Betsey also bridged this distance travelling down under to enjoy the adventures of fishing and hunting, and celebrating the friendship shared with my parents. He was in attendance at my parents' wedding in Norwich in 1955.

To Betsey, I hope you can give her a warm long distance hug from us- her enduring love and care and example of selfless love for Ward is an inspiration- 59 years!! It must be the most difficult thing to have this physical separation after such a life time of love! But it is only physical as I believe his spirit is as close as your life vein. To Skip and Jenny and all the progeny, how proud you must be of such a wonderful father and grandfather!

Finally we hope you don't mind us sharing two quotes from the Baha'i Writings, and that you find comfort in them:

“To consider that after the death of the body the spirit perishes,” the Baha'i Writings state “is like imagining that a bird in a cage will be destroyed if the cage is broken, though the bird has nothing to fear from the destruction of the cage. Our body is like the cage, and the spirit is like the bird...if the cage becomes broken, the bird will continue and exist. Its feelings will be even more powerful, its perceptions greater, and its happiness increased...”

"Therefore think not that he hath perished. Indeed he will endure in the heavenly kingdom as long as God Himself endureth. And this calleth for gratitude, not grieving. When he findeth that thou art happy he becometh more cheerful, but when he perceiveth that thou art disconsolate, this provoketh anguish in his heart."
(Bahá'í Writings)

With very much love to you all,

Wendy & Jerome





“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Susan Hutton - November 11, 2018 at 06:53 PM