



## Anthony P. Jannetta

December 2, 1934 - July 15, 2023

Anthony Peter (“Tony”) Jannetta passed peacefully on Saturday, July 15, 2023, at Waverly Heights Retirement Community, Gladwyne, PA, surrounded by family. Born December 2, 1934, to Samuel Benjamin and Frances Alfano Jannetta in Philadelphia, Tony attended school in Haddonfield, New Jersey before graduating from York High in York, Pennsylvania in 1952. He attended the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business from which he graduated in 1956.

While at Penn, he was a proud member and officer of the Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta where he formed many lifelong friendships. He was also the manager of the men’s varsity basketball team and a member of the Navy ROTC. He later proudly served his country as a Lieutenant, JG in the United States Navy. He also met the love of his life, Sally, at Penn where their relationship blossomed and, after a long courtship, resulted in a marriage lasting nearly 60 years. Tony’s affection for and commitment to Penn did not end with his graduation. For many years, he served as an officer of his class where he regularly led fundraisers and reunions for the Class of ’56, was a member of the Board of Overseers of Penn Athletics, and served as the President of the Basketball Club. In recognition of his commitment and service to Penn, he was awarded the Alumni Award of Merit by the University in 1996.

Tony began his distinguished business career with IBM where he worked for fifteen years. Driven by his entrepreneurial urges, he left IBM and, for more than forty years until his passing, was active in founding, growing, financing, and advising early-stage companies, particularly those in the healthcare, technology, and biotech areas. Tony was a valued friend, mentor, and confidante to many entrepreneurs and business leaders and could often be found hosting them for breakfast at Merion Cricket Club. A gentleman in every respect, Tony was relentlessly and genuinely solicitous and interested in everyone he encountered and treated all he met with great respect regardless of their station in life.

Tony was incredibly proud and supportive of his family. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sally, and their children Stephen (Nadia), Gregory (Leslie), and Timothy. Like his parents, Tony greatly valued the importance of education and, with Sally, sacrificed greatly to ensure that his children received outstanding educations. Tony also leaves behind his adored grandchildren, Andrew, Casey, Kylie, and Hannah, with whom he was able to spend many cherished moments. He is also survived by his sister Ida Marie Higgins (James) and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brothers Peter and Samuel Jannetta.

Tony was engaged in the community and, at the time of his passing, was a Board member of the Academy of Vocal Arts, as well as an active member of Merion Cricket Club and Merion Golf Club. He previously served as a Trustee of The Episcopal Academy and had also been a member of the Union League of Philadelphia and The Assemblies. A man of deep faith, Tony was a regular congregant and former Vestry member of the Church of the Redeemer in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania where a memorial and remembrance service will be held

on Saturday September 16th. at 1 PM. Burial is private in the Churchyard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial donations be made to The Episcopal Academy in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania or the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **16.** 1:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Redeemer  
230 Pennswood Rd  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

# Tribute Wall



“ I knew both Tony and Sally Janetta from when we lived in Mechanicsburg, PA. My then husband, Harold Rineer, (dec. 2001) worked with Tony in the Harrisburg Branch office of IBM. They were such gracious entertainers and gave lovely Christmas parties for IBM .personnel Thinking of Sally and their family.  
Jane Barsumian (formerly Rineer)

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Jane Barsumian (formerly Rineer) - September 14, 2024 at 08:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Anthony P. Jannetta.



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September 15, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Anthony P. Jannetta.

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September 15, 2023 at 10:19 AM

“ I'm Bud Weidknecht... Tony Jannetta was my friend. I am sure that everyone reading this can say that. Tony and I were roommates in the Phi Gam house at Penn. I think I met Tony the second day I was at Penn. I was a late entry at Penn, and wasn't accepted until mid-August, so I missed freshman camp and all the other things that a new Penn student would experience in anticipation of becoming a "Quaker". But Tony was like a one man welcoming committee. Thanks to big brother, Peter, Tony knew all there was to know about the university. And gave me the "crash course".

I think it was about 10 minutes after Sally Stahl arrived on campus that Tony fell in love. That was a classic case of, "he pursued her until she caught him." And Tony could not have been prouder of his boys and their families.

After more than 70 years, the signature Tony greeting was always a warm handshake, a manly hug and..."Hey Room, How the hell are ya?"

When adversity struck someone in Tony's world there was never a question of why or wherefore, but simply, "How can I help?"

Case in point: In 1990 when I and about 3999 other Eastern Airline pilots found ourselves unemployed, Tony told me that he had launched a business with a group of doctors, opening several clinics, treating varicose veins. He said that he needed someone to help in marketing the new venture and offered me the job. That lasted as long as it took me to learn that my salary constituted most of what the business expected to earn the first year... Typical of that great heart.

Tony's love of Penn basketball got us hooked as well. Tony and Sally and Gretchen and I didn't miss a game from New York To Florida to Seattle and back along with "The Usual Suspects" as Mo Szporn called us.

In observance of a significant birthday... it might have been his 50th, I wrote a poem (I couldn't help it, I'm an English major). The last line was...

"When the lord thought of friendship and loyalty second to none;  
He had one hell of a model, my old roomie, Sam's second son."  
Buried in a Phi Gam fraternity song were the words... "Pledged

*hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart" They have a great deal more meaning now than they did then.*

*I miss you, "Room".*

*-- Bud*

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**Bud Weidknecht** - August 28, 2023 at 05:12 PM

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*PPB Capital Partners wouldn't be what it is today without the support of early adopters. Tony Jannetta was one of my original believers to provide alternative investment solutions to the underserved high-net-worth investor segment. For more than 50 years, Tony mentored countless start-up businesses off the ground. He helped me with early financing, set meetings with powerful business leaders, offered business and personal advice, and pushed me when things looked grim—all with loads of positive energy.*

*Hats off to a wonderful and proud man who worked every day of his adult life supporting his family, totally committed to his marriage.*

*He lent that needed hand when many others persuaded me against launching a small business.*

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**Brendan W Lake** - September 13, 2023 at 11:25 PM