



## David W. Maxey

May 17, 1934 - December 23, 2023

David W. Maxey, died on Saturday December 23, 2023 at the age 89. He was a resident of Waverly Heights, a retirement community in Gladwyne, PA. He was the beloved husband of Catharine Eglin Maxey, with whom he was joyously married for 55 years.; proud father of Paul E. Maxey and Margaret W. Maxey, and grandfather of Morgan Maxey and Riley David Maxey. Mr. Maxey was born in Scranton, PA, on May 17, 1934, the son of Paul H. and Margaret Walker Maxey. He is also survived by his brother Tom and his brother's family.

Mr. Maxey was a graduate of The Haverford School, Harvard College, and Harvard Law School. He joined the Philadelphia law firm of Drinker Biddle & Reath in 1960 and retired from that firm forty-one years later, having served in turn as an associate, a partner, a managing partner, and co-chairman.

A historian by avocation, beginning more than 40 years ago, Mr. Maxey authored numerous published articles and monographs, principally on Pennsylvania and Philadelphia history in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Mr. Maxey's past board memberships included The Haverford School, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations at St. Joseph's University, and the Gladwyne Free Library.

Mr. Maxey's life was blessed by family and friends. One place in particular and

the friends he made there had a lasting claim on his affection: Plush, a ranching community in the high desert country of southeastern Oregon.

As a longtime member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Gladwyne, Mr. Maxey's funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. John's on Saturday January 6th, 2024 at 11 am with a time to greet the family from 10 to 11 at the Church. A private interment in a country cemetery in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Those wishing to make a contribution in Mr. Maxey's memory may consider doing so to either the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, or the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

# Previous Events

## The family will receive guests

JAN 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St John Vianney Church  
350 Conshohocken State Rd  
Gladwyne, PA 19035  
(610) 642-0938

## Funeral Mass

JAN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Vianney Church  
350 Conshohocken State Rd.  
Gladwyne, PA

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Family - I am a fourth cousin of Paul E Maxey and Margaret W. Maxey. I offer my deepest sympathy to them for the loss of their father, David W. Maxey. I would appreciate it if one of them could contact me regarding a family history authored by their father. Pat Markunas, Key Biscayne, Florida

Patricia Markunas - March 15, 2025 at 05:59 PM



“ Cathy, I was very sorry to hear of David's passing. He was a great mentor to me as I learned about attracting international business to the Philadelphia region. I met David in 1986 when I became the Deputy Director of the Greater Philadelphia International Network (GPIN). Later, when I became the Executive Director I worked closely with him in his role as a board member of GPIN. We traveled together to Switzerland where David had friends and business contacts. He was a wonderful help to me for many years. With sincere condolences, Fred Dedrick

Fred Dedrick - January 05, 2024 at 01:28 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of David W. Maxey.



January 04, 2024 at 02:01 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of David W. Maxey.*



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January 02, 2024 at 05:32 PM



“ *Dear Cathy, David was a student at Harvard Law when he sublet a room in my sister Susanne and her husband Lloyd's rental house on Agassiz Street in Cambridge. It was there that I met him in 1959, when I was 17. David's and then your attachment to Sue and Lloyd was one of the strongest and most enduring friendships I ever knew. It was such a pleasure for me growing up and as an adult to meet the two of you in summers in Vermont and sometimes here in Philadelphia. A dozen years ago, David and I began meeting for lunch regularly to discuss our historical researches. I will always be grateful for his making a connection for me to the publications section of the American Philosophical Society, which then published my book on my parents' flight from Nazi Germany and their lives here. And it was such a pleasure to collaborate with him on his recent article on the Angelika Kauffmann self-portrait now on display at the Powell House. He was a powerful arguer whose stubborn cross examination clarified my thinking a lot. I admired his unwillingness to let fuzzy thinking go unchallenged, and my written output benefitted from his sharp analysis. I will miss him very much. Ditta and I send our condolences and best wishes to you and your family.*

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**Frank Hoeber** - January 01, 2024 at 04:46 PM



“ Cathy, Bob and I were so sorry to learn of David’s passing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your whole family. He was such a kind, interesting man with a wry sense of humor. We had the pleasure of meeting both of you when we bought your home on Woodleave Road with our two young boys who now live nearby with their children. You were so kind to host a party for us so we could meet the neighbors. What an extraordinary thing to do and we have never forgotten your hospitality. Please know we are thinking of you at this sad time.

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**Caro Rock** - December 31, 2023 at 02:07 PM

PC

“ I first met David in 2008 when I was the newly appointed director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations of Saint Joseph’s University. Over the years, I came to know him as a gentle, knowledgeable, inquisitive, and warm human being, and I valued his supportive presence greatly. His devotion to interreligious understanding was seen by his service on the institute’s Board of Directors for over three decades, beginning with his friendship with my predecessor Fr. Donald Clifford. My sincere condolences to his family and friends.

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**Philip Cunningham** - December 30, 2023 at 12:13 PM

RR

“ Dear Cathy, Jim and I were so sad to learn of David’s passing. He was such a special human being—compassionate, funny, warm, and so very smart—and I know that everyone who had the privilege to know him will miss him. Please accept our condolences and warmest wishes at this very sad time. Ros and Jim

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**Rosalind Remer** - December 30, 2023 at 09:22 AM

PM

“ *Dear Cathy*

*I was sad indeed to learn that David had died. He was such a lovely man with so many interests and helpful commitments. I was so pleased that APS could publish some of his work. He was so helpful too as a Friend of the Society. My sympathy to you and your family and my warm regards*  
*Pat McPherson*

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**Pat McPherson** - December 29, 2023 at 02:53 PM