



Edward E. Gardiner

August 11, 1930 - December 27, 2015

Edward Ernst Gardiner, age 85, of Rosemont, PA, died peacefully at home on December 26, 2015 surrounded by his children following a joyful Christmas with his family. The beloved husband of Nancy Roberts Gardiner; devoted father of Edward T. and wife Margaret of Acton, MA, Lisa C. Davis and husband Bob of Gulph Mills, PA, and Whitney G. and wife Amy of Wilson, WY; loving grandfather of Edward A. & John (Jack) R. Gardiner and Elliot J. & Mason C. Davis; cherished brother of Margarete (Gray) G. & the late Murray Halton of Media, PA, and brother-in-law of Constance R. & Charles Pydych of Philadelphia, PA; and warm-hearted cousin, uncle, and friend to many.

Edward was born on August 11, 1930, the son of Edward August and Maria Gerlach Gardiner of Bryn Mawr, PA. He attended the Haverford School in Haverford, PA; graduated from The Hill School in Pottstown, PA in 1948; Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA in 1952; and completed post-graduate programs in finance and accounting at Villanova University in Villanova, PA. After completing his education, Edward served as First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps from 1952-1954.

Following a brief courtship, Edward married the love of his life, Nancy Roberts, at The Church of the Redeemer in Bryn Mawr on September 19, 1959. Completely devoted to Nancy, they enjoyed fifty-six years of marriage while raising their children together.

Edward was the great grandson of Christian Schmidt who founded the Christian Schmidt Brewing Company of Philadelphia. Schmidt's was the largest brewery and the most popular beer in Philadelphia for many years. In 1955, Edward began his career at Schmidt's Brewery, ultimately rising to the position of Treasurer. While at Schmidt's, he met his best friend and future business partner, Franklin C. Markle of Chester Springs, PA. In 1975 Edward and Frank took a bold business leap. They assumed the leadership of the Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. of Wilkes Barre, PA, where Edward was named as President. Between 1976 and 1996, Edward and Frank built up the company to become one of Pepsi's most desirable franchises, while providing opportunity to their employees and supporting the community. During this time he also earned a position on the Board of Directors for Laurel Packaging in Johnstown, PA. Edward became known for his disciplined and fair business practices and for his profound respect for his workers. His employees asked him to serve as a Trustee of the Teamsters Union #401.

In 1996, following two successful decades with the company, Edward retired from the beverage industry. Never one to slow down, he then became Vice President of Amtel Systems Corporation in Chester Springs, PA. After his formal retirement in 2007, he continued to consult with individuals starting their own small businesses.

Edward was a master craftsman and woodworker. His home is furnished with a corner cabinet, low boy, and numerous tables and chairs built by his artful hands. His garage was always the scene of the restoration and repair and of one of several antique boats, his pride and joy being Wannsee, a 1941 Chris Craft 17' Deluxe named after his ancestral home in Germany. In his yard is a shed, dog house, tree house, and fence he built. He delighted in teaching woodworking skills to his children, grandchildren, and youngsters in the neighborhood.

A long time member of the Merion Golf Club and Merion Cricket Club, Edward played tennis for many years, and maintained a lifelong passion for golf and perfecting his golf swing. He avidly supported many organizations, particularly the American Red Cross where his mother, Maria Gerlach Gardiner, had volunteered during World War II.

His Memorial service will be held on January 9, 2016 at 3 PM at The Church of the Redeemer, 230 Pennswood, Road Bryn Mawr, PA, 19010.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to: The American Red Cross, Eastern PA Region, 2221 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
<http://www.redcross.org/local/eastern-PA/donate>

Cemetery Details

Adjoining Churchyard

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 9. 3:00 PM (ET)

Church of The Redeemer
230 Pennswood Road
Bryn Mawr, PA

Tribute Wall



Georgios
Ardavanis

“ I met Mr. Edward Gardiner twice (in the mid-80's)...he was beaming class and nobility....he was a real gentleman.....dear Lisa and family please accept my late yet, sincere condolences.
Truly,
Georgio (George) Ardavanis (PhD)

Georgios Ardavanis - July 14, 2020 at 10:53 AM



“ Orgill, Inc. purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Edward E. Gardiner.



Orgill, Inc. - January 08, 2016 at 05:13 PM



“ I am so very sorry for your loss Lisa and and family. Your father was such a kind hearted, funny, chivalrous man. Aidan, Keilan and Sharlene are sending you hugs and warm thoughts.

Sharlene McKinley - January 05, 2016 at 05:06 PM