



Henderson Supplee III

April 4, 1929 - August 23, 2022

Henderson "Woozy" Supplee, III, of Bryn Mawr, PA, died peacefully at home on Tuesday, August 23rd, 2022.

Born in Bryn Mawr on April 4, 1929, Woozy was the eldest son of Mary Baker and Henderson Supplee, Jr., of Radnor. He attended Episcopal Academy, Princeton University, and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He served in the Army National Guard of Pennsylvania, worked for four years in the office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon, and then began his long career as a life insurance agent. He was a longtime member of the Sons of the Revolution and the First City Troop.

Dedicated to service, Woozy sat on the boards of the Presser Foundation, The Racquet Club of Philadelphia, the Mercantile Beneficial Association of Philadelphia, the Shipley School, the Philadelphia Center for the Blind, and the Salvation Army of Greater Philadelphia. He was a devoted supporter of Episcopal Academy, the Berkshire Choral Festival, Camp Tecumseh, and the Barbershop Harmony Society.

In all these organizations and throughout his life, Woozy was recognized as a gentleman. He cared about and showed his respect to each person with whom he interacted. He was uncompromisingly kind, generous, gentle, and patient. A very firm handshake, a direct look in the eye, and a warm greeting

were skills he had his daughters rehearse in the living room before guests arrived.

Sports were among Woozy's lifelong pursuits. In addition to being called "Fast Eddie" on the ski slopes, Woozy was a devoted tennis player and longtime member of the Merion Cricket Club, the Mill Dam Club, and The Racquet Club of Philadelphia. At The Racquet Club there remains a particular Court Tennis "lob to the dedans" that has been nicknamed "the Woozy" in his honor. When playing outside, grass courts were preferred. He supported his daughters in their sporting ambitions as well, regularly attending their field hockey and lacrosse events and cheering their efforts.

Music was essential to Woozy. He enjoyed singing barbershop harmonies, choral music, and accompanying himself and others on the piano, organ, ukulele, and banjo. He would be visibly moved by particular chord progressions or a well-placed harmony note. Frequently after singing a song, he would want to go back and repeat a certain section that brought him joy. The Presser Foundation's philanthropic support for music and music education was of paramount importance to him; he served on its board for over 40 years, and was President of the Foundation for 14.

Woozy loved and cared for Apple Tree Farm, his residence in Bryn Mawr for over 55 years. Mowing, trimming, cleaning the gutters, and clearing the snow were among his rituals in maintaining this 240-year-old house. Standing at his kitchen counter while eating his breakfast, Woozy would watch the birds at the feeder, at peace with himself and the world around him. His daughters continue to birdwatch and pick up sticks in his honor.

Woozy never truly retired from his long career as a life insurance agent with Penn Mutual. He was renowned for remembering the birthdays of all his clients and members of their families and he remained prepared; five

unopened packets of birthday cards still sit at the ready in his desk drawer.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara of Gladwyne; daughters Shelley Supplee of Aspen, CO, Pamela Jiranek of Earlysville, VA, and Robin Supplee, of Bainbridge Island, WA; sons-in-law Rob and Mike; grandchildren Hobey, Glenna, Hayes, Cory, and Lander; sisters Anne Carroll of New London, NH, Betty di Valmarana of Free Union, VA, brother Andrew Supplee of N. Sutton, NH; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandson Graham Derzon-Supplee.

His Memorial Service will be held at 11AM on November 26, 2022, following a private interment, at the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to Baker Industries, Malvern, PA, or the Salvation Army of Greater Philadelphia.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of The Redeemer
230 Pennswood Road
Bryn Mawr, PA

Tribute Wall

TP

“ Back in the late '60's, I was a teacher at Episcopal and hence met him as did so many others attached to that school. It didn't hurt that I played tennis and squash, hence a natural at the age of 23 to be convinced I needed life insurance. What followed was 60 years of birthday cards and other remembrances. Living in Florida, I didn't know of his death until a year later, but the fond memory of him will always remain.

Tom Poor



Thomas M. Poor - December 10, 2023 at 09:12 PM

GX

“ Ginny, Jimmy, Ed and Leo xo purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Henderson Supplee III.



Ginny, Jimmy, Ed and Leo xo - November 10, 2022 at 04:32 PM

EW

“ *Mr Supplee was one of the finest men i have ever had the pleasure of meeting. We spend quite a bit of time together and my life is better just for having been with him. He was a true gentleman and always found reason to smile the greatest smile I have ever seen. I will miss our time spent together. I have the highest regard for his family and I hope they find comfort in the days to come. He truly will be missed. The world is a better place because he was here. I am forever grateful that I can say he was my friend.*



Elaine Weaver - September 07, 2022 at 03:44 PM

PJ

Thank you, Elaine!

Pamela Jiraneck - October 20, 2022 at 02:27 PM

SS

I just found out that Woozie passed away. So sorry I didn't know. He was good friends with my Mother Susan Jones who he met at Shipley and Milton Jackson who they were in the same class at Episcopal, in the Army and at Camp Tecumseh. They were great friends and born 3 weeks apart. I last saw Woozie at my Dads memorial in April 2017. We wrote a few times after that. He will be missed. To all the family, our condolences.

Sarah Smith - December 31, 2022 at 04:23 PM

TW

The most beautiful man I ever met. I could never describe how sweet and gentle . A wonderful beautiful man . My heart goes out to his wonderful family. Tracy

Tracy wismer - January 29, 2023 at 04:50 PM