



Samuel James Mendicino

August 14, 1927 - January 19, 2023

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Samuel James Mendicino, age 95, passed away peacefully at his home in Gladwyne, PA on Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023, with his wife Beverly at his side.

Sam grew up in Sewickley, PA, near Pittsburgh. His Old-World parents Thomas and Sarah operated a small coal mine, made delicious Italian food, and raised their children Tommie, Sam, Robert, Virginia, Rose Ellen, Carl, and Martha to be hard working, loyal, and independent. Upon graduation from Sewickley High School in 1945, Sam entered the Navy and shipped to the South Pacific in the final months of World War II. Following his service, he enrolled in Carnegie Mellon University, where he graduated with a degree in Architecture.

With an irrepressible entrepreneurial spirit, Sam founded Visual Communications, Inc. in 1959, in Holmes, PA. The company blossomed into a successful operation with over 120 employees providing in-house design, construction and management for tradeshow, museums, and corporate interiors and events.

Sam was always active. He worked hard, and he loved having fun. He

traveled the world and enjoyed sharing his success and his love of life with his family and friends. He built and renovated numerous houses where people congregated and enjoyed great times together. His sons, stepsons, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends and friends' children all have cherished memories of Sam teaching them to how to ski, waterski, sail, golf, eat oysters and snails, drink Tanqueray and tonic, and many other wonderful things in life.

Sam was a force to be reckoned with. He inspired his family and friends to stand up for themselves, to recognize BS when they see it, to send wine back when it's bad, to know what you're worth, to problem-solve, to think on the fly, to adapt to new circumstances, and overcome barriers. He was fiercely loyal and inspired loyalty in others.

Sam's passing was preceded by his son Jim, his siblings Tommie Brenner, Robert, Virginia Schneider, and Carl. He leaves behind his wife Beverly, his daughter Betsy Forsythe, son Bob, stepsons Chris and Marc Roth, grandchildren Angela Hughes, Amanda Marino, Ashley Mendicino, Samantha Stedford, RJ Mendicino, Ezra and Rosey Shuman-Roth, great-grandsons Jack and Joe Hughes, an expected great grandson, his sisters Rose Ellen Mallon and Martha Thomas, and many nieces and nephews. He will be remembered for his unbounded energy, generosity, creativity, entrepreneurial spirit, service to his country, and commitment to his family and friends.

The family will receive guests after 10:30 am on Saturday January 28, 2023, at Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home, 30 East Athens Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003, where his Funeral Service will begin at 11:30 am.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to either Wounded Warrior Project or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Previous Events

The family will receive guests

JAN 28. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home, Inc.
30 East Athens Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003
(610) 642-6303

Funeral Service

JAN 28. 11:30 AM (ET)

Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home, Inc.
30 East Athens Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003
(610) 642-6303

Tribute Wall



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Samuel James Mendicino.*



January 27, 2023 at 02:17 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Samuel James Mendicino.*



January 26, 2023 at 01:39 PM



“ *He was so full of life! He was like a second dad, teaching me to snow and water ski, trusting me to drive the boat on the lake. I remember his beer tab chain at the cottage that he diligently added to. I loved sleeping in his army cot when there were so many of us poured into the house that there were no sofas left. Vacations meant Sam. His energy and laughter was always there.*

Dena Farbman - January 24, 2023 at 11:29 PM



Our family was there every July 4 week. Sam taught me to water ski and sail. My parents would drop me off at their upper Darby house on Friday nights and we would go skiing at big boulder. Great memories. I wish I had got this obituary sooner. I would have attended and shared my memories.

Jay Cruikshank - May 08, 2024 at 09:09 PM

ST

“ Stephanie lit a candle in memory of Samuel James Mendicino



Stephanie - January 24, 2023 at 09:12 AM

AG

“ I met Sam in 1978 when he hired me. I worked for Visual Communications for the next 20 years. I was always impressed with his awesome work ethic as well as the way he genuinely cared about his employees. Even after Sam sold the company and the new owners let me go, he called me that night to express his unhappiness for my departure. That's the kind of guy Sam was. He CARED about people. I have many fond memories of him sitting down and talking to me like a friend.. work, sailing, fishing, family and numerous other topics. I've had numerous job since leaving Visual Communications, but no employer that I've had since has cared about me and my family the way Sam did. I don't believe there are many like him anymore! I send my sincere condolences to his wife as well as his entire family. He will surely be missed.

Art Gandy - January 23, 2023 at 04:42 PM

BD

“ I remember my dad's patience teaching many friends and family members to snow skiing and water ski. He would stay out on the water or on the slopes for hours on end. I always thought he should have been a ski instructor. Or when he took us fishing he would stay out on the water with us and patiently untangle our fishing lines.

Betsy Mendicino Forsyth, Daughter - January 23, 2023 at 03:30 PM

BD

“ *Betsy Mendicino Forsyth, Daughter lit a candle in memory of Samuel James Mendicino*



Betsy Mendicino Forsyth, Daughter - January 23, 2023 at 03:25 PM

MR

“ *1 file added to the album Sam Mendicino*



Marcus Roth - January 23, 2023 at 02:36 PM