



## Emil Gunthardt

January 29, 1930 - January 17, 2020

### A REMEMBRANCE OF EMIL GUNTHARDT

Swiss-born, Emil Gunthardt was the most fearless man I have ever met...He felt challenged when he heard “that cannot be done”...Be it downhill skiing, sailing, mountain climbing, fast cars, etc., etc., etc. That invitational dare became his personal quest. However, Emil always liked company on these adventures, therefore, if you were family or friend, you became his accomplice.

Sidelined by meniscus surgery (brought about after a grueling tennis match), his surgeon’s warning to stay off his feet only spurred Emil on...”What can I do during the healing process???” What did he come up with???? FLYING —“We will all learn how to fly”...so every weekend we would head up to the Catskill Mountains to learn how to fly gliders and Piper Cubs. Emil even convinced my 14 year old daughter to go up and she ended up flying a plane BEFORE she could drive a car!!!

Emil’s enthusiasm was infectious even if you had reservations about what you were about to undertake, you were hooked because you believed “it was safe.” Emil loved to travel but he never used maps...he only took his Michelin Guide. I cannot tell you how many off the beaten track restaurants we dined in —not all of them memorable for the cuisine...but he loved the adventure of discovery...

Emil loved playing tennis and was very good at it—he loved the comraderie of his fellow players; however, as time passed he eventually, at the urging of Ingrid and myself, took up golf and grew to love the challenge of a day on the links. During the years playing at Copperleaf, the members and staff grew to love Emil for his kindness along with his enthusiasm for his new undertaking. He was never truly satisfied with his game and was always trying new things. He became somewhat fulfilled when I told him that his swing resembled that of the great Arnold Palmer.

Emil Gunthardt was a unique gentleman in the true sense of the word and you were never happier than when you were in his presence—his joie de vivre was infectious and we will truly, truly miss having him in our lives.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Emil Gunthardt*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Emil was my grandfather. The only living grandparent I ever met. We always had a hard time understanding each other. Me with my California accent and him with his Swiss accent, although I knew he was kind, strong and reliable. It was very sad for me to hear of his passing. We didn't get much time together living a continent away from each other. I remember when my Mom was sick with Cancer, he generously supported her through all the medical bills. He was always a very generous man, which is where I think I get it from. I feel grateful and honored to call him my Grandpa. We played golf together and tennis and he showed me how to be polite and respectful.*

Kimberly Kelly - February 11, 2020 at 08:58 PM



“ *I met Emil after I moved to Copperleaf ten years ago. We met playing golf. I saw an older man with some of the infirmities of old age, I also saw in that man enthusiasm in all that he did. It is apparent his was a life well lived. While I did not know him well I saw the affection he engendered by those who knew him better. For myself he has left a legacy of good memories.*  
*Bob Zucconi*

Bob Zucconi - January 24, 2020 at 07:43 PM



“ 5 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home** - January 21, 2020 at 12:58 PM