



## George F. Riley

January 15, 1932 - January 5, 2018

George F. Riley, age 85, Chairman of The George F. Riley Foundation, died Friday, January 5, 2018, in Naples Florida. George was born January 15, 1932, in Detroit, the son of James and Arla (Wessel) Riley.

He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and married Dolores Dailey on August 16, 1952 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Detroit. Dolores preceded him in death on April 29, 2010.

George's lifelong interest in electronics, honed in the Navy as an aviation and radar man, led him to open a TV repair business in 1952. That grew into Clover Technologies in Wixom, now the site of DPTV's studios. Clover Technologies, a Fortune 50 telecommunications company, was commonly referred to as a company that had grown from a one man operation to a company with over 450 employees and 8 offices nationwide. The growth was achieved with no outside capital investments, but by the sound management practices George processed. He had the natural ability to attract the best staff and partners, and to inspire them to achieve superior customer satisfaction. George also mentored and empowered key members of his executive leadership team to manage and operate daily business operations. George was awarded the Entrepreneur of the Year Award along with many other community and civic recognitions.

When George sold the business, he and his wife Dolores established the Riley Foundation to give back to the community, including many facilities that bear the Riley name such as Riley Park in Downtown Farmington and special outdoor camps for disadvantaged children that continue to this day. The Riley Foundation supports the community of Farmington Hills with major funding for an archery range and skate park, profiled in the DPTV documentary "Taking it Off the Street." The Foundation also provides tuition support and medical help to young people in need. Charitable projects of the Riley Foundation also include, Angela Hospice in Livonia, The George F. Riley Healing Garden located at the Beaumont Cancer and Breast Care Center in Farmington Hills and The Riley Wilderness Youth Camp in Novi.

A \$5 million gift from the Riley family became the cornerstone of DPTV's capital campaign in 2005 and a vivid demonstration of their belief that public TV improves America's future through continued education for all. The station he loved reflects his values. George was a friend, a mentor and an inspiration to the team at DPTV. His gift helped transform the organization and opened the door to all that they are building today.

Surviving are his children, Daniel G. Riley, George K. Riley, William D. Riley and Kimberly A. (John Eric) Fouts; grandchildren, Arianna E. Riley, Logan D. Riley, Sean T. Riley, Kevin G. Riley, Rosalyn M. Riley, Gary M. Riley, John P. Riley, Lisa M. Riley, Linda Riley, Amanda M. Riley and Ryan Fouts; great granddaughter, Riley Rowan; daughter-in law, Maria Riley; siblings, Nancy (Stan) Masternak, Michael (Ann) Riley, Suezann (Gary) Weber, Bonnie Riley and Paul (Jannie) Riley. George is also survived by his significant other and nurse of 11 years, Janice Anderson and his best friend and business associate of 38 years, Leonard A. Kruszewski. In addition to his wife, Dolores, George was preceded in death by sons, Gary (d. 1970) and Michael (d. 2010), siblings, James (Peggy) Riley, Shirley (Richard) Burden and Judy (Ron) Zambrowski.

The Riley family will receive guests on Friday, January 12th, 2-9 pm, with Prayers and Remembrances at 7 pm, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Road (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200).

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 13th, 12 pm (in state 11:30 am) at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23815 Power Rd., Farmington.

In lieu of the customary remembrances, memorial tributes are suggested to Angela Hospice.

Thank you for keeping the Riley family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Local arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *George F. Riley*

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October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM