



Harry Vafiadis

February 25, 1927 - September 29, 2016

Harry Vafiadis passed away peacefully on September 29, 2016 after enjoying a life blessed with good health and the love of his family. His journey through this world began in 1927 in Istanbul, Turkey. (Though, born to Greek parents, he would insist we refer to his birthplace as Constantinople.)

Harry attended Robert College in Istanbul, and then emigrated to the United States where he earned a Masters degree in civil engineering from the University of Michigan. Harry worked in Philadelphia before starting his civil engineering firm, Harry Vafiadis & Associates in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He lived on the island for forty years, and it was there that he met and married the love of his life and started a family. Harry engineered many of the hotels, condominiums, highways, and bridges that Puerto Rico has today.

Though his career was impressive, Harry still found time to enjoy many hobbies. He was a world traveler, and spoke six languages including Greek, English, French, Turkish, Spanish, and Italian. He loved to sail, snorkel, snow ski, play tennis, and in his 18 retired years, he became a master duplicate bridge player. Harry had two mottos in life: "eat, drink, and be merry," but also, "everything in moderation." They were both on display in the evenings- a time he devoted to sitting on the back terrace with his wife and a bottle of wine, immersed in conversation. His mottos served him well, as he enjoyed good health and vitality until the end of his life.

Harry was at his core a family man. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather, always putting the needs of his family before his own. He will be remembered lovingly for his interesting stories and his gentle nature.

Harry is survived by his wife, Eugenia Vafiadis, his two daughters, Kally Walton, and Yana Vafiadis, his son-in-law, Austin Walton, and his three grandchildren, Grant, Reid, and Nell.

Services will be private and held at the convenience of the family

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Harry Vafiadis*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Remembered Joy*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free!
I follow the plan God laid for me.
I saw His face, I heard His call,
I took His hand and left it all...
I could not stay another day,
To love, to laugh, to work or play;
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
And if my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss...
Ah yes, these things I, too, shall miss.
My life's been full, I've savored much:
Good times, good friends, a loved-one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief –
Don't shorten yours with undue grief.
Be not burdened with tears of sorrow,
Enjoy the sunshine of the morrow.*

Deepest Sympathies,

Jack Cullen

Jack Cullen - October 02, 2016 at 06:43 PM

JR

“ *My memories are many but I cherished his stories and how he articulated them and when he laughed it was contagious and enthusiastic. And I loved the way he said Jeannie! He will be so missed by our family.*

jackie remington - September 30, 2016 at 07:16 AM