



Kenneth R. "Whitey" Phillips

April 11, 1950 - May 16, 2024

Kenneth R. "Whitey" Phillips 74, of Fort Myers, FL, and a former lifelong resident of Akron, OH died on May 16, 2024, at Joanne's House at Hope Hospice after a brief illness. Whitey was born on April 11, 1950, in Akron, OH a son of the late William L. and Robbie L. (Dupree) Phillips. He had been a resident of Southwest Florida for the past 30-plus years.

He attended Akron University and then served 6 years in the U.S. Army and Army National Guard. Whitey was also a professional golf caddy, having caddied for the likes of Al Geiberger, John Cook, and Gary Player, just to name a few. He had a passion for the game, either caddying or playing himself. Whitey had the privilege of playing at the Augusta National Golf Course, home of the Masters.

Whitey was instrumental in organizing fund raisers in memory of his mother that benefited local Hospice facilities. He was a Founding Partner of the Arnold Palmer's Turning Point Invitational that benefited the Hope Hospice - Joanne's House, Bonita Springs.

Whitey's life was centered around golf and eventually found another career becoming a realtor and enjoying the lifestyle of SW Florida. He sold real estate with John R. Wood Properties and most recently with Domain Realty. Through the homes he sold, many buyers became life-long friends.

He is survived by his brother, Jim Phillips, and his wife, Elaine, of Cottonwood Heights, Utah; three nephews, Chad Phillips, Craig Phillips, and Ian Phillips and sister-in-law, Dale Phillips of Akron, OH. The family appreciates the many texts and phone calls received during this time.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, George Phillips, and his sister, Linda L. Phillips, both from the Akron area.

Whitey will be laid to rest at Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, FL. Per Whitey's request, no services will be held

The family suggests that memorial donations in his memory may be made to Hope Hospice 27200 Imperial Parkway, Bonita Springs, FL 34135.

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Cemetery Details

Sarasota National Cemetery

9810 State Road 72
Sarasota, FL 34241

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *With love and a heavy heart you will be missed. We would sit and share stories about Ohio and whitey was always the first to say hello to people and ask how your day was. He would have given the shirt off his back for a complete stranger! Prayers to the family and all his friends,*

From Jesse & Francisco!

Jesse & Francisco - July 01, 2024 at 09:56 PM

MB

“ *100% class,a gentleman, a patriot, a patron to numerous charities, and a great mentor, you will be missed ,but never forgotten, good buy my old friend till we meet again someday...p.s I told st.pete you like ice in your beer so they'll have it ready when you get to heaven*



Michael Barlow - May 28, 2024 at 03:47 PM



“ *Whitey was the first person we met when we first started going out. Nicest guy you could ever meet, and to make even better, we too are in the Real Estate business, we like old friends before the night was over.*

Will miss him dearly.

Heavenly Hugs,

Bob & Bob

Bob McDougal-Wickson - May 28, 2024 at 01:54 PM

SH

“ *My condolences. I will miss you and I love you. Thank you for being a great friend and person.* ”

Shawndreka - May 28, 2024 at 01:43 PM

LS

“ *Linda Smuder lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Phillips* ”



Linda Smuder - May 24, 2024 at 06:23 PM

BM

“ *Barbie Miller lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Phillips* ”



Barbie Miller - May 24, 2024 at 03:33 PM

BJ

“ *Whitey, as I write, still shocked that I will not hear another hilarious joke from you... your laugh alone while telling the joke made me laugh. You were a good soul and will be greatly missed by many. Rest and I know you are with loved ones smiling! Much love.* ”

Billie Jans - May 23, 2024 at 07:55 PM

HG

“ *Whitey, you will be deeply missed by Denny and I. You were a very special person in our lives and instrumental in the start of my career in Real Estate. Thank you for your friendship, being the best man in our wedding, and traveling to Michigan to support us. You will be deeply missed and we will always love you.*



Holly Gregor - May 21, 2024 at 08:52 PM

ME

“ *Was truly a friend and he will be missed by a lot of people rest in peace my friend I shall see you on the other side may God bless family and may they take solace and Noah that why he is in pain no more*

Mike england - May 21, 2024 at 03:47 PM

GF

Whitey and I were friends in the 60s and 70s back at Mayfair C. C., Akron, OH. Great friend. Miss you Gil Fox

Gil Fox - September 27, 2024 at 01:37 AM