



Paul John Gerwin

August 10, 1929 - October 12, 2016

Dubbed “Spike” at age two to counter a head of blonde curls, Paul John Gerwin passed peacefully on October 12, 2016, at Joanne’s House at Hope Hospice in Florida. His devoted wife of 64 years, Marie Massey Gerwin; his daughters, Lynn Grier and Mary Gerwin; and his sons, Jud Gerwin and Joe Gerwin, gathered at his bedside, saying good-bye to the patient, humble, tactful man who served as their role model for how to live a quietly joyful life. Born on August 10, 1929, in Cincinnati, Spike grew up in Columbus, Ohio, graduating from Upper Arlington High School and later receiving both his B.A. and his M.B. A. from Cornell University. While academics were his primary focus, his fellow students appreciated his skill on both the pitching mound and the basketball court. Fifty years after the fact, his own children were shocked to discover that the man who shot hoops in their driveway also had stats on the internet for three semi-pro games he played in the early fifties. After college his game of choice became golf, which he played at least once a week during his working career and at least four times a week in retirement. Spike was blessed with a strong tenor voice, which made long car rides more enjoyable and sing-alongs more musical.

After serving in the army, Spike began his career with Procter and Gamble. A loyal employee for 37 years, he approached business the way he approached life: in both he earned the reputation for being a straight arrow and a perfect gentleman.

During almost every summer of his long life, Spike enjoyed time at his family’s

island cottage in the Les Cheneaux Islands in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. It was there that he first met the love of his life, Marie, and there that he introduced his four children and three grandchildren to days in icy water and nights near a toasty fire.

All those who loved him are encouraged to honor him with a peanut butter sandwich, with or without butter, jelly, lettuce, or banana. Spike relished all of these variations as long as the sandwich started with Jif.

A memorial service will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the convenience of the family.

Donations in his memory can be made to the Les Cheneaux Historical Association, P.O. Box 301, Cedarville, MI 49719 or to Joanne's House at Hope Hospice, 27200 Imperial Parkway, Bonita Springs, FL 34135.

On line condolences may be left by visiting www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com
Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Paul John Gerwin*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I was saddened to learn of Mr. Gerwin's death when I saw the obituary in the Columbus Dispatch earlier this month. I was about 9 or 10 years old when he was playing for Cornell and I met him and got his autograph. I still remember the one-handed set shot he perfected (before the jump shot was popularized). And he taught me a new way of writing the letter "S" as in Spike which I still use. My condolences to the family. I've lived in the Columbus area for almost 50 years but obviously not before Mr. Gerwin. He had a great life.*

*Lee Leonard
Reynoldsburg, OH*

Lee Leonard - April 12, 2017 at 02:38 PM



“ *God Bless and Thank YOU, Paul for your service in The United States Army.. .RIP ... And Semper Fi..... Soldier.*



Herb Guyer-Sharfenaker USMC - April 09, 2017 at 09:59 PM