



Richard E. Hamlin

June 2, 1925 - April 18, 2020

Richard E. Hamlin completed his life's journey on Saturday, April 18, 2020 and moved into God's loving arms. He and his wife have been Southwest Florida residents since 1996, having lived in Bonita Bay, Bonita Springs, Florida and more recently, at Bentley Village in Naples, Florida.

Born in Royal, Iowa on June 2, 1925, he lived in small towns in Iowa and Missouri where his father was a Presbyterian minister. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1943, during World War II. Following the war, he enrolled in and graduated from George Williams College in Chicago. After obtaining his Bachelor's degree, he was the Executive Director of the South Omaha YMCA. He earned his Master's degree while on the job there. He then became the Associate Director of Research for the National YMCA in New York City, during which time he earned his PhD. Degree from the University of Nebraska.

He married Carol Joan Dahl in 1949, and they lived in Nebraska, New Jersey, Chicago, Illinois, Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri and Florida. He is survived by his loving wife, Carol Joan, his son Robert E. Hamlin and wife Cynthia, Ft. Myers, FL; daughter Elizabeth Ann, Los Angeles, CA; grandsons Richard W. and wife Mei, Guam; and Trevor Hamlin, Ft. Myers, FL.

For 22 years he was the President of George Williams College in Chicago and Downers Grove, IL. During his Presidency, a new campus was built in Downers Grove, new undergraduate and graduate programs were established.

After retiring from the Presidency of the College, he was named Chairman and CEO of The Bank of Yorktown and was a member of Senior Management of Cole-Taylor Banks. He served in various executive capacities with the Holding Company. Upon retirement he was named an Honorary Director of Cole-Taylor Banks.

In each community where Richard and his wife have lived they have been active in and taken leadership roles in community betterment. He has served as President of his Rotary Club, Chairman and President of numerous higher education organizations, founding

director of the Southwest Florida Speakers Assembly and Elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Active in the antique car hobby for many years, he was a Master Senior National Judge for the Antique Automobile Club of America, and was the proud owner of two beautiful award-winning automobiles. Boating, computers, woodworking, photography and video-making were among his other numerous hobbies.

A private family committal service will be held in the Resurrection Garden of the First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs with Rev. Dr. Douglas Pratt officiating.

Memorial Gifts in his memory may be made to the Richard E. and C. Joan Scholarship Fund at George Williams College, 350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay, Wisconsin, 53191, P.O. Box 210.

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

Cemetery Details

First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs Resurrection Garden

9751 Bonita Beach Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard E. Hamlin*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM

GP

“ *Rest in peace Mr. Hamlin.*

I had the pleasure of having a wonderful dinner at your house when I enrolled at GWC. You were a man of peace, and lived your life to serve others. Thank you for your dedication to GWC and for being a positive role model for all of us.

Glenn Purpura - April 29, 2020 at 05:32 PM

RB

“ *Did not know him well, graduated GWC his first year as President 1962.. Thought he was taking the school in an interesting direction. Wished him well then, visited him several times at the new campus looking for staff for our Y Camp. Very interesting man. My thoughts and prayers with his family.*

Richard Bowers - April 27, 2020 at 03:05 PM

BH

“ *I attended George Williams College from 1965-69. Dr Hamlin was George Williams College was President at that time; and I always admired him greatly. He had an uncanny ability to remember names. In 2004 while attending a reunion at the Lake Geneva campus; I walked over to his table and he said "How are you Brian". BTW; I was not wearing my name tag.*

Brian Hamilton - April 25, 2020 at 03:27 PM

MS

“ *We so loved Dick and our wonderful memories together with Joan at Lake Geneva. He always so welcoming! Love Marcia and Ken.*

Marcia Smith - April 25, 2020 at 08:26 AM

GS

“ Joan

I am so sad of hearing of Dick's passing— y'all were wonderful neighbors in BB.

Will always remember hearing a horn blowing in Dover, England and looking up and seeing y'all as your son was taking y'all to the ship we were cruising on. What are the odds

Will keep you and the family in my thoughts and prayers

George Schneider

George Schneider - April 22, 2020 at 09:16 PM