



G. Richard (Dick) Christiansen

October 27, 1930 - May 18, 2025

G. Richard (Dick) Christiansen, 94, of Sarasota, Florida, formerly of Glenview, Illinois, passed away on May 18, 2025.

Born on October 27, 1930, in Evanston, Illinois, Mr. Christiansen grew up in Winnetka and attended New Trier High School, where he excelled as a three sport athlete. He played basketball, baseball, and golf, earning All State honors in basketball during his senior season.

Mr. Christiansen went on to attend the University of Illinois, where he was recruited to play basketball for the Fighting Illini. During his four years on the team, Illinois advanced to the NCAA tournament each season, reaching the Final Four in both his junior and senior years—an achievement that was a source of great pride.

After graduating in 1952, Mr. Christiansen was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the United States Army. He served in the Quartermaster Corps during the Korean War, spending two years in Korea before returning home in 1954.

That same year, Dick married Laurel Custard, and the couple made their home in Glenview, Illinois. He began his professional life working briefly at his father's firm, the Christiansen Advertising Agency, before embarking on a long

and successful career in advertising sales for several prominent consumer magazines. He retired in 1988.

Following retirement, Mr. Christiansen moved to Sarasota, Florida, settling on Siesta Key, where he enjoyed the warm weather, long daily walks along Siesta Key beach, and golf and lunches with friends.

A lifelong sports enthusiast, Dick attended countless sporting events over the years. His greatest loyalty was to the Chicago Bears, for whom he was a devoted season ticket holder for more than 50 years. He was also an avid and accomplished golfer, and a proud member of Sunset Ridge Country Club for 70 years.

Dick also greatly enjoyed his annual drive north to visit his son, Jack, and family in Glenview, Illinois in late summer. He would stay to attend the first Bears home game. He attended his final game in September 2024, with his son and grandson, just before his 94th birthday.

Mr. Christiansen is survived by his son, Jack (Diane); his grandson, Jack Jr.; and his brother, Kurt.

He will be remembered with love for his warmth, his generosity, his big smile and his unwavering devotion to the people and passions that shaped his life.