



Gilbert James Leacock

September 3, 1934 - May 14, 2020

Gilbert James Leacock, known to his friends and family as Gil, Dad(dy), Uncle Gil &/or Grandpop, was born on September 3, 1934 in West Chester, Pennsylvania to the late James & Ethel Leacock. He died on May 14, 2020 in Sarasota at the age of 85. A resident of Caldwell, New Jersey until his late teens, he moved to Sarasota upon his graduation from the University of Maryland in 1957.

He was hired by the City of Sarasota in 1960 and retired 37 years later, in 1997, as Director of Public Works. While employed with the city he was, at various times, responsible for the Department of Parks & Recreation as well. He was extremely proud of the various beautification projects that he oversaw, the preservation petitions that he participated in and several innovations that he was able to secure at the city's water treatment plant.

In his later years, Gil remained active in the Sarasota Municipal Employees Credit Union (chairman), the Civil Service Board (chairman) and as an outstanding senior volunteer for the Sarasota County Schools. Due to his membership in the National Insulator Association, Gil was able to travel far and wide in pursuit of the collectibles. His greatest joy, however, was spending time or travelling with family, whether it be for a vacation, a celebration, holiday or everyday socializing. He often told stories about the smaller, simpler Sarasota of his 20s and 30s but would remain hopeful in his nostalgia that the larger, more complex Sarasota of today would somehow continue to retain a hometown feeling.

Gil is survived by his wife of 62 years, Joyce (Means) Leacock; their two children, Deborah L. (Carl) Lacy and Rebecca J. Leacock, all of Sarasota; and their two grandchildren, Caroline E. Lacy and Gillian J. Lacy, both of Tallahassee.

Gil leaves a legacy of respect, service, courage, generosity and, above all, love. His family will continue to work hard to make sure his many admired personal qualities live on in words and deeds for generations to follow.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, May 26, at 11 am at Toale Brothers (Orange Avenue, downtown), with a funeral service & graveside service to follow.

As an alternative to flowers, please consider a donation to the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast (400 Palmetto Avenue, Osprey, FL 34229; conservationfoundation.com).

Tribute Wall

TH

“ *Such affection and respect for you dad, and your mom, who always made me feel welcome and a [art of the family. We can't be there but know that we send you love every day.*

Tracey Henley - May 23, 2020 at 02:17 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gilbert James Leacock.*



May 23, 2020 at 02:14 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gilbert James Leacock.*



May 21, 2020 at 04:31 PM

LF

“ *What a beautiful family. I know your faith and memories will comfort you and your love for each other will help you carry on.
Love and prayers.
Jerry and Linda*

Linda Fields - May 20, 2020 at 09:16 PM

PH

“ *Love this family and share their loss in so many ways. May God give them peace and strength today! Sending many prayers and my condolences. xoxo Patti*



Patricia Harrell - May 20, 2020 at 11:34 AM

TT

“ *The Gulf Gate Kindergarten Team purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gilbert James Leacock.*



The Gulf Gate Kindergarten Team - May 19, 2020 at 06:27 PM

SC

“ *May your family find joy and laughter in the memories you shared together. Love y'all.*

- Shannon and Randal Cole

Shannon Cole - May 19, 2020 at 03:55 PM

SS

“ *He always showed so much kindness to me even though he was so quiet. I always knew he was a family man and loved them dearly. RIP Mr. Leacock! ❤️*

Sandi Slaughtee - May 19, 2020 at 02:17 PM