



Harold Ragnar Graden

October 5, 1927 - March 22, 2021

Harold Ragnar Graden, age 93 of Longboat Key, FL and formerly of Ocean City, NJ, passed away after a brief illness on March 22, 2021 at his Florida home. He was born in Worcester, Massachusetts October 5, 1927.

He was a longtime resident of Havertown, PA and preceded in death by his loving wife of 51 years, Ruth Mildred Selman.

Mr. Graden was a veteran serving in the U.S. Army after World War II ended in 1945. He graduated from Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts in 1950 with a Chemical Degree and later received his MBA from the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce in Philadelphia in 1952 with a degree in Business Administration. After selling industrial chemicals for another company, he later founded Graden Chemical Company, a reseller of specialty chemicals which gave him the opportunity to travel extensively calling throughout the United States on business.

Harold was an avid golfer and loved sailing, skiing, traveling and the ocean. He was an integral part of The Leif Ericson Society and further a longstanding Member of LEVS, Leif Ericson Viking Ship, Inc., whose mission is to honor the contributions Leif Ericson made in his discovery of North America.

Surviving are his two daughters Marlyse Lindblad (Bengt) of West Chester, PA

and Christine Graden (Mike) of Florence, MT five grandchildren, Jessica Munley (Matt), Scarlett Lindblad, Rachel Cuff (Tom), John Slavinski (Celine), Stefan Freeth and nine great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Harold's life will occur on a later date to be determined.

In lieu of Flowers, donations made in his name can be directed and mailed to Leif Ericsson Viking Ship, Inc. (LEVS), PO Box 779, West Chester, PA 19381-0779 or Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church, 916 S. Swanson Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147 (online at www.old-swedes.org.) All donations should be with the notation "In Memory of Harold Graden'.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ We remember Harold so well from his residence in Longboat Key. Harold would always greet us with such a friendly hello and smile. Many times we gathered along with him at the pool. It always amazed us how active he remained !!! I remember so well enjoying his company one night along with a few chocolate chip cookies I had made for him. Fond memories of a great person whom we will always remember for his kindness to all and pleasant smile.
Maryann and John Mazzaferro

Maryann and John Mazzaferro - June 14, 2021 at 04:44 PM

SU

“ Harold was always in my life, along with Ruth, Marlyse and Chris. As long as I can remember. Good friends with my parents, an honorary uncle.
When I think of him, I see his bright blue eyes, his big bright smile, and hear his loud laugh. In my memory, he was always that way. Joyous and energetic. A wonderful impression to make and own. I think of him now, spreading that joy in heaven. Together with those he loves.

Susan - April 02, 2021 at 08:57 PM

WC

“ Harold was a fixture around Portobello. We enjoyed talking to him about a number of subjects. Harold always had his opinion about what was going on around Portobello but was pleasant to discuss things. He will be missed in the Portobello community.

Harold, rest in peace.
Bill and Sharon Collins

William J Collins - April 01, 2021 at 03:17 PM

LT

“ Ah, how to comment on my dear Uncle Harold? He lived life to the fullest, had so many adventures, & spread so much joy wherever he went. From yodeling all the way up the ski lift at the top of his voice for his nieces to plunging headlong into cold Jersey waters at the Shore -- good Mass. boy raised as he was -- it was always a good day when Uncle Harold was around. As a traveling salesman, his stay overs at our house - "Hotel Norris' - brightened our evenings. A man who loved life, loved well, and cared for others so well. And, I am sure, leading the party of all of our departed Beloveds up there right now. xxoo from a loving niece, Lisa.

Lisa Traugott - March 31, 2021 at 08:34 PM

KG

“ We were saddened to learn of Harold's passing last week. He was a wonderful part of our Portobello community, especially those of us who were fellow swimmers! He was always a gentleman and loved when we had community gatherings. He will be missed by many! May his memory be for a blessing.....

Karen and Ed Gartner Portobello 405B

Karen Gartner - March 31, 2021 at 04:30 PM

CG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Christine Graden - March 29, 2021 at 08:53 PM

LH

“ Even to those of us who were not fortunate enough to have known Harold in his prime, it was obvious what a big personality he was. To the end, he had a smile for those coming in to help him even in days when he wasn't feeling his best. It was a pleasure to meet him and his wonderful daughters, Marlyse and Christine. Harold is, no doubt, smiling down knowing that his greatness lives on in his beloved girls. The love between them all was a joy to witness.
Lucy, PT

Lucy H - March 29, 2021 at 05:20 PM

CG

Thank you Lucy for encouraging and motivating our dad. He enjoyed the therapy visits and usually put forth his best effort when you were there. You will always be remembered as part of team Harold.

Christine Graden - March 29, 2021 at 08:34 PM

ML

Lucy, your enthusiasm, patience, and gentle way with dad kept him motivated to improve and keep strong. He brightened when you came and truly aimed to please, but also knew it was in his best interest. Thank you for your loving care.

Marlyse Lindblad - March 30, 2021 at 01:06 AM

JK

“ I had the honor of taking care of Mr. Graden for the last few months of his life. I have never met such a incredible and inspirational man in my life. From stories he could remember of him being young to sailing across the ocean to washing his clothes on rocks with his girlfriend to how he rode a toll art coaster at age 85! The most enjoyable times I had was the simple days we had maybe going out to eat at a restaurant or simply taking a stroll down the street. Having us drive around and Mr. Graden showing me neat spots to go to or restaurants to try. To all the life advice he has given me he will forever remain in my heart and someone I inspire to be.

Jacob Kirsch - March 29, 2021 at 12:20 PM

LT

Dear Jacob, Thank you for taking such loving care of my beloved Uncle Harold. I know my cousins were so grateful he had you, such a gifted caregiver. God bless! Lisa Traugott

Lisa Traugott - March 29, 2021 at 01:47 PM

CG

Jacob your loving care and thoughtfulness will always be remembered. We were so blessed to have you take part in caring for our dad. Thank you!

Christine Graden - March 29, 2021 at 08:37 PM

ML

Jacob, your beautiful thoughts about our dad here are so wonderful and truly heartfelt. It showed in your daily loving care that was given to him. You gave all and dad felt safe, protected, and loved. Bless you!

Marlyse Lindblad - March 30, 2021 at 11:39 AM