



Mr Harry J Stuart

October 9, 1943 - July 27, 2019

Harry Stuart of Lenox, MA and Saranac Lake, NY, passed away on July 27, 2019 at Brigham and Women's hospital in Boston with his loving family by his side. He fought a valiant battle against an aggressive B-Cell lymphoma for nearly a year, but in the end he was unable to file for any extension of time.

He was born on October 9, 1943 in Saranac Lake to Harry and Eileen (Wheelock) Stuart. His father died in February 1950 and his mother married Cleo McCasland in August 1951. Upon graduating from Saranac Lake High School in 1961, he earned a BA in Economics at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, and an MBA in Accounting from the University of Michigan Graduate school of Business in 1966.

He joined Price Waterhouse in New York City as a senior accountant in 1966. When he was drafted for military service, he elected to join the US Navy and arranged for a delayed reporting date so that he could continue working at Price Waterhouse for a brief time.

After entering Navy Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI where he was the cadence caller and section statistician for Hotel Company of OCS Class 710, he attended Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, GA. That same year, he married his first wife Helen (Charland) with whom he had three children. He was deployed to the USS Henry County (LST-824) stationed in San Diego, CA and served as a Lieutenant until his ship's decommissioning in the summer of 1969.

Upon his discharge, Harry returned to Price Waterhouse. After his first child was born, he began to look for a part of the country where he could raise his growing family and settled in the Berkshires in 1972.

He began his career in the Berkshires as Treasurer and Controller of Berkshire Bank & Trust. The unexpected death of the bank president two years later and a subsequent merger eliminated his position so he began commuting daily to his position as Controller at the Springfield Institution for Savings in 1976.

That same year, he also began working nights and weekends during tax season with a local CPA who had just started his own practice. Two years later, he and Tim Doherty were partners in Doherty & Stuart, PC; a partnership that continued for 40 years until the unexpected retirement of his partner in early 2018.

He was devoted to his clients, wanted to learn about their lives, and developed lifelong friendships with many of the individuals he served. He was also very proud of his efforts as Treasurer and Trustee of the Dowmel Lecture Series, which provided free lectures from well-known public figures on a broad range of current topics to the public and students.

He was equally devoted to his family and made the time to participate in all their events. He was known for his cowbell ringing at Amy's cross country ski meets, cheering loudly at Brian's soccer and baseball games, supporting David in his many adventures with excitement and more than a bit of anxiety, and always being there for anything his family needed. He especially loved hiking with his children and friends and was very proud to become a member of the Adirondack 46'Rs.

He also loved giving back to his community and supported many organizations, both in Lenox and Saranac Lake. He was on the boards of the Norman Rockwell Museum and Stockbridge Golf Club, where he loved playing golf and made many friends. He also served on the Family Selection Committee for Habitat for Humanity for many years, and was instrumental in building the Adirondack Carousel in Saranac Lake.

He met the love of his life, Claudine (Chavanne) in 1991 and they began a lifetime of wonderful adventures together, highlighted by their marriage in 2003.

Harry will be missed dearly by his loving wife, Claudine Chavanne of Lenox; his children Amy D. Stuart of Newton, MA; Brian J. Stuart and his wife Sarah of Poulsbo, WA; David J. Stuart of Hinsdale, MA; his grandchildren Shannon, Carter, Katie, Quinny, Alden and Lillian; and by the many people whose lives he touched.

A wake will be held on Wednesday, July 31 at the Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA. A special remembrance ceremony will begin at 4 followed by calling hours from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

A funeral mass is planned for Monday, August 5, 2019 at the St. Bernard's Church in Saranac Lake, NY. Burial will follow in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Harry's memory may be made to Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity, the George B. Crane Memorial Center, Saranac Lake Youth Center, or the Adirondack Carousel, care of the funeral home.

To share memories and stories, please visit rochefuneralhome.com.

Events

JUL **Celebration of Life** 04:00PM - 04:30PM

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Roche Funeral Home

120 Main Street P.O. Box 152, Lenox, MA, US, 01240

JUL **Visitation** 04:30PM - 07:00PM

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Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Roche Funeral Home - August 01 at 09:32 AM



“ Harry was a genuinely good person. He had that special ability to always make you feel that you mattered well before his own needs. He was a kind and thoughtful person. He was a good brother-in-law even though we weren't able to see him often. Marc and I and the family here in Chicago will miss his humor, love, and compassion for others.

Cindy Chavanne - September 09 at 07:36 PM



“ I was so sorry to learn of Harry's passing. Harry and I served together as officers on the USS Henry County. We also played many rounds of golf together in San Diego. I remember one time when we got in trouble with our wives, because we stayed at the golf course until dark. First playing a round of golf and then chipping and putting until we could no longer see the ball. Harry and his wife would also come on board the USS Henry County at dock when I had officer of the day duty and the four of us would play bridge and tell tall stories. I think the story telling was better than the bridge. May the seas always be calm where Harry is now.

Clark Compton - August 16 at 07:28 PM



“ Harry was my accountant for almost 30 years and a friend. Whenever I walked into his office he was always ready with advice and a story about his latest hike or vacation. He would make an annual trip into Clearwater Natural Foods for his tax time stress vitamins. He chose Clearwater/MeanWheels/Moms House and my sister Maggie Sadoway as a test for his tax software they were starting to use a long time ago. He always got a kick out of that and often brought it up because it was quite complicated. He loved my Mom, Helen Wheeler and never forgot that her birthday was April 15! I miss seeing him and Claudine walking in the evenings. My condolences. Ruth Wheeler

Ruth Wheeler - August 05 at 08:47 AM



“ Harry was my accountant and my friend. However busy he was, he was always available with his sage advice. I treasured our annual meetings at income tax time, where we discussed not only my finances, but the world in general and especially his beloved carousel.

I send my warmest sympathy and condolences to his family. I know how much they will miss him as will all his friends.

Margot Yondorf

Margot Yondorf - July 31 at 10:29 AM



“ Timothy Doherty, Jr. and Katherine Grodin-Doherty purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mr Harry J Stuart.



Timothy Doherty, Jr. and Katherine Grodin-Doherty - July 31 at 09:44 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr Harry J Stuart.



July 31 at 12:07 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr Harry J Stuart.



July 30 at 08:17 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr Harry J Stuart.



July 29 at 07:09 PM