



## Douglas P. Boyea

March 25, 1912 - November 19, 2010

Douglas P. Boyea, 98, of Plainville, widower of Ruthe Wright Boyea, passed away Friday November 19, 2010 at the Hospital of Central CT in New Britain. Born in Ellensberg, NY, he lived in New Britain since 1955, moving to Plainville in 2003. Doug was a graduate of Springfield College in 1941 and received a Masters Degree from NYU. A World War II, US Army veteran, he was stationed in Virginia, Alaska and Germany. He served as Health & Physical Education Director of the Pittsfield, Mass YMCA; the Railroad YMCA in New York City; and the New Britain YMCA, where he was the longest tenured member, joining in 1924. While at the New Britain YMCA, he helped develop the sport of "Paddle Racket" now known as racquetball. In 1967, he received the Roberts-Gulick Memorial Award as National YMCA Physical Educator. After retiring from the YMCA in 1969, he went on to teach physical education at Benjamin Franklin and Vance Schools in New Britain, retiring in 1979.

While with the YMCA, he had the opportunity to travel. He was a Fencing Judge in the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki, Finland, and also attended the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City with other YMCA professionals. He was also a member of a delegation of YMCA professionals to tour YMCA's around the world. Photography was his hobby as he continued to travel throughout the US and the world with his wife Ruthe during his retirement. He was a member of South Church in New Britain; was an associate member of the Congregational Church of Plainville; and also belonged to the New Britain

Camera Club; the Country Camera Club of Berlin; The Live Y'ers of the New Britain YMCA; and the Photographic Society of America.

Surviving is his son, Douglas Boyea Jr. and his wife Gail of Pittsburgh, PA; a daughter, Ruthe Boiczuk and her husband Edward of Plainville; five grandchildren, Ericka Fangiullo and her husband Mark of Windsor; Mary Westkott and her husband Mark of Waterford; Katherine Boiczuk of New Hartford; Keith Boyea and his fiancée Nicole of Washington, D.C.; and Luke Boyea and his wife Sarah of Dallas, TX; and four great grandsons. Besides his wife Ruth, he was predeceased by a brother Kenneth Boyea and a sister, Ruthe LeGier.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday November 27 10 AM at the Congregational Church of Plainville, 130 West Main Street, Plainville. Calling hours are Friday November 26 5 to 7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to New Britain YMCA World Service, 50 High Street, New Britain, CT 06051. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by clicking on "Add Condolences" at the bottom of this page.

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ *Ruthie, my condolences to you and your family. I will let my mother know. He was a great man and it was an honor knowing him.*  
*Shakeela Penny*

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**shakeela penney-nobles** - January 09, 2021 at 01:17 PM

MC

“ To the Boyea family,  
I have read all the entries and as they all speak of Mr. Boyea having to do with the Y. I wanted you to know that my fondest memories of him were at Vance school. You see he was my gym teacher and still to this day he was the best ever. I have often spoke of him with my best freind Stacey Buinickas Murphy. We always said he was the best!! He taught us the right way to play sports. He always had time to teach the right way even if one was having trouble learning. I remember we had to take this kind of strenght test I was never good at it but I can still hear him today saying "don't give up you can do it". I now work in the Plainville school system and am always bragging to the gym teacher how real gym used to be. No foam balls we played with a playground ball. Mr. Boyea taught a mean game of dodge ball it was the best time ever. Sadly today dodge ball is not aloud in grade school. However the day he made me saftey patrol monitor well that is a day I will never forget. No teacher in all my years made me feel so special and important. He will always be an important part of my childhood memories. Someone once told me being an educator a child will forget what you did for them or most of what you taught them but a child will never forget how you made them feel. In reading of his passing it made me remember he always made me feel important. I can only hope that the children's lives I have touched gives them the same feelings that Mr. Boyea gave to me.  
I am so sorry for your loss. May God Bless all of you and keep you well, may the angels wrap their wings around you to keep you safe.  
Maria Carpinteri Charneski Vance School class of 1977

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**Maria Carpinteri Charneski** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Ruthe - I was looking for my father's obituary and saw your dad's. How sad...what a foresome they were back in early 60's with Jim and Walt.. I remember with great fondness my many fencing lessons and church league basketball..My dad died tuesday night after a short battle with pneumonia..Had a short but dignified stay at the hospital Hospice unit..Ev johnson is probably holding a staff meeting as we speak...Stay in touch if you will...hope your family is holding up and you are doing well...

*Ted and Nancy*

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**ted mayo** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ RUTHE & FAMILY: I AM SO VERY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSE. I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT A PLEASURE IT WAS HAVING WAITED ON YOU BOTH OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS. MR. BOYEAU WAS SUCH A KIND KIND MAN WHO WAS ALWAYS SO HAPPY GO LUCKY AND NEVER EVER HAD A SINGLE COMPLAINT OR ANYTHING BAD TO SAY FOR THAT MATTER. WHAT AN INSPIRATION-98 years old always smiling and so pleasant! I can only hope and pray that I can be so easy going if/when I reach 98. I will miss you dearly Mr. Boyea. P.S. Wish Jesus a Merry Christmas for me seeings how you will be spending it with him this year!

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**Trish Brewer Liberty Diner** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Dear Ruthie and Dougie; your father was my mentor, my friend, and my first YMCA boss after graduating from Springfield College in 1961. We worked closely together and I learned more than just Y skills from him, like professionalism, integrity, responsibility, respect and a sense of humor...and a little bit of fencing too. I remember you two as Y brats growing up at the Y, even though it was no girls allowed back then. He loved you two dearly, as he did your Mom, and whenever we talked over the years he spoke so proudly of your accomplishments...and those of his grandchildren too! He was always a source of encouragement, to be the best I could at whatever the task/challenge. I'm sorry I cannot be there to celebrate his wonderful life and see you personally. Our prayers will be with you all. Jim and Mikey Havlick

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**Jim Havlick** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ I have many, many memories of Mr. Boyea he will always will be MR. Boyea to me from the "Y" and from hanging around with Doug Jr. in the old Black Rock Avenue neighborhood. My condolences to all of the family.

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**Mike Nicastre** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *My condolences to the Boyea family and friends. He will be missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him.*

*I have many wonderful memories of Doug from my years at the Y. He was my tutor on the history of racquetball. We invited racquetball inventor Joe Sobek to an annual meeting where he and Doug were honored for their contributions to the sports. We travelled together to St. Louis for a General Assembly of YMCAs where he and the New Britain Y were honored for their contributions to the YMCA Movement.*

*Doug was always an inspiration to our Y's World Service program. His travels and experiences inspired our volunteers to develop one of the nation's most successful international programs. And he was always willing to share his travels through his wonderful photo and slide programs.*

*He was a regular attendee at our Y's Annual Meetings where he was recognized for having the longest continuous membership.*

*But most of all I will remember Doug for his warm and gentle friendship, his positive attitude and love of life.*

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**Doug Bray** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *Curt and I want to extend our sympathy on the loss of your father. The passing of a parent is never easy, but it is apparent that he had a very full and rewarding life.*

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**Dianne Poland** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GY

“ Ruthie, Just a note to convey my condolences to you on the loss of your father. It is wonderful that he had a long full life. I remember him at the "Y" and at South Church. He and your mother were good examples. Hope you are well, Grant

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**Grant Yukins** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Doug was my first exposure to the YMCA when I joined the New Britain Y in Fall of 1961. Have many nice memories of his and Jim Havlick's leadership, and as a result of his influence, I went on to attend Springfield College. May God bless him and your whole family. Tom, Class of '68.

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**Tom Pillion** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ My husband, Alfred, and I extend our deepest sympathies to you on the loss of your father/grandfather. We remember him showing slides of his tours to the Prime Y'ers group of the New Britain/Berlin YMCA. He was a wonderful man and we will miss him.

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**Joan C. Gagliardi** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CM

“*Doug was the PE Director in New Britain when I arrived there in 1958 so I have know Doug and Ruth since that time. He truly cared about the kids and all the people that came through the Y programs and seemed to be a friend to all that knew him. In later years we looked forward to seeing him & Ruth at the Springfield College 5 year reunions since Judy had graduated in the same 5 year cycle. We both anticipated seeing him once again at what would have been his 70th reunion and will certainly miss him this spring and our thoughts will most certainly return to him. For many years, we would also see him and Ruth occasionally when we went out for a Chinese Sunday dinner.*

*He continued his membership in the Retired Y group, including 2010-11, even though he was unable to attend our events.*

*I also want to express the sympathy of the entire Retired Y group officially in our capacity as the group's current secretary. He certainly had many of our members that admired him and benefited from his experience.*

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**Cliff & Judy Moss** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GB

“*Doug Boyea, Sr. was the most wonderful father-in-law anyone could hope for. He was kind, gracious and loving and will be greatly missed.*

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**Gail Boyea** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM