



## Gregory B. Howey

May 12, 1942 - December 14, 2018

Gregory B. Howey, 76, of North Branford, husband of Barbara (Thompson) Howey, passed away Friday (December 14, 2018) at his home. Born in Sandwich, IL, son of the late Robert and Mavis (Jameson) Howey, he was raised in Sycamore, IL where he became an All State athlete and attended the University of Wisconsin on a football scholarship and was on the 1963 Rose Bowl team. After college, he received an MBA from Harvard Business School. Greg was President and Chairman of OKAY Industries in New Britain from 1990 to the present. Previously, he was Executive Vice President of Insilco Corporation in Meriden and was a former Vice President of Ingersoll Rand Company and the Torrington Company where he spent 3 years running its operations in Portugal.

Greg was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in New Britain and the Shuttle Meadow Country Club. He was active in the community, serving on many boards. Some of the things he was involved in included the American Savings Foundation, the Rogers Corporation, the Hospital for Special Care, New Britain General Hospital, the YMCA of New Britain and Berlin, the YWCA of New Britain and co-chaired New Britain's Ten Year Work Plan to End Homelessness which culminated in the opening of The Howey House in New Britain. He also formerly served on the boards of The American Savings Bank, the Institute of Technology & Business Development (ITBD), The Governor's Prevention Partnership, The United Way of New Britain and the Capitol Area,

New Britain Chamber of Commerce, the Spencer Turbine Company and the YWCA of New Britain.

Besides his wife Barbara, he leaves two sons, Jason Howey and his wife Terese of Branford and Jonathan Howey of Madison; a daughter, Danika Trautman of Fairfield; a brother, Robert Howey and his wife Mandy of Mequon, WI; 9 grandchildren, Samuel, William and Courtney Trautman; Gabrielle and Rachel Howey; Ashton, Andrew and Erik Howey; and Amanda Johnson; several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two infant children, Jill Howey and Paul Howey; and a son-in-law, Scott Trautman.

Other than spending time with his family, Greg loved golf, skiing, travel and his summers in Quonnie, RI.

Funeral services are Thursday (December 20, 2018) 10:30 AM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 147 West Main Street, New Britain. Burial will be at the convenience of the family in Hillside Cemetery in Torrington. Calling hours are Wednesday 4 to 7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Howey Family Fund c/o The Community Foundation of Greater New Britain, 74A Vine Street, New Britain, CT 06052 or to a charity of the donor's choice. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at [www.carlsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Calling Hours

DEC 19. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home  
45 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051  
(860) 225-6361  
carlsonfh@aol.com  
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

### Funeral Service

DEC 20. 10:30 AM (ET)

St Mark's Episcopal Church  
147 W Main St  
New Britain, CT 06052  
(860) 225-7634

# Tribute Wall

GM

“ I served with Greg Howey on the Rogers BOD for 3 years until Greg retired. As a first time BOD member, Greg was a source of knowledge, history and wisdom for me. Through our interactions, especially our BOD dinner sessions, Greg came across as a wonderful human being and I greatly enjoyed my time with him and what I learned from him. In every way he was a true scholar and a gentleman.

*I am profoundly saddened to hear of his passing. I would like to pass on my condolences to Greg's family and let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.*

*Ganesh Moorthy*

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**Ganesh Moorthy** - December 31, 2018 at 10:48 AM

BP

“ Greg and I met in 1960 when two freshman Mechanical Engineering students at the University of Wisconsin pledged the same fraternity. Our lives paralleled, intersected and became entwined for the rest of his life.

*I frequently reminded him that he was triple lucky when he landed his summer job at the Torrington Company.*

- 1. It enabled him to attend Harvard Business School.*
- 2. It led to his permanent hire at Torrington, a wonderful starting opportunity upon which he built his successful business career.*
- 3. But most importantly it was during one of those summers in Ct. that he met Barbara the love of his life.*

*Over almost 60 years Greg was a loyal and true friend, a good tennis partner, a challenging golf opponent, a fun skiing companion, a well pitched harmoniizer when we sang (with the Wisconsin Glee Club), a first rate business associate (at Rogers Corporation) only a c+ bridge partner (no one is perfect), and along with Barb wonderful traveling companions for Peggy and I.*

*To me Greg is the dictionary definition for living life as it is meant to be lived. In spite of some major personal tragedies he found the time and energy to combine a very successful business career, an immense commitment to community service, the raising of a great family, and the continuous building of friendships through out his life. All of this while never losing his optimism, his love of life, his unique laugh, and wondrous smile we will never forget.*

*He will be truly missed by all of us whose life he touched, but the World is a better place because of what he accomplished, the people he helped and the legacy he has left. Greg was truly “one of the Good Guys”.*

*Bob Paul*

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**Bob Paul** - December 27, 2018 at 01:00 PM

PK

“ Greg was an exceptional person and made a significant difference in his community. His professional life and his community service are to be admired and appreciated. On top of all that, Greg was a super guy with a great sense of humor and fun to be around. We are in PA today, but our hearts are with you Barbara and all of your family today. We are keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers.  
Love, Pauline and Ken.

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**pauline and ken kezer** - December 20, 2018 at 02:16 PM

PF

“ Jason and Family:

Your Dad will truly be missed. I met him 34 years ago with Connie Wilson Collins (OIC Former Board Chairperson) and his love for the New Britain community has always been a top priority. I just wanted to say thank you and your family for sharing him.

May God Continue to Provide You and Your Family with Strength and Support!

Paulette Fox and OIC Board and Staff

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**paulette fox** - December 19, 2018 at 03:55 PM

KN

“ Greg was a great guy. He had a great sense of humor & because he was a Giants fan he would always razz me about being a Cowboys fan. He would take the time to put newspaper clippings on my cubical when ever the Giants beat the Cowboys.

Ken Newcombe

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**Ken Newcombe** - December 19, 2018 at 09:54 AM

LK

“ Greg was one of the best men I have ever known. Always smiling & always positive, wanting to help people in any way he could. He may be gone from here, but he is up there now, looking down & smiling. God Bless the Howey family.

*Larry Kramer*

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**Larry Kramer** - December 18, 2018 at 02:24 PM

RV

*I met Greg when my daughter Teresa got engaged to his son Jason. Shortly after that we played a round of golf together and he shot his best game ever. There was no pretense about him he was a real gentleman and extremely generous. He gave my daughter one of the best weddings I have ever attended. He of course was rewarded with a wonderful daughter-in-law and beautiful grandchildren. I believe he led an exemplary life and though I did not know him that well I admired him for how he raised his family and treated mine. He will be missed by anyone who ever knew him. Ron vandett*

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**Ron. Vandett** - December 21, 2018 at 01:08 PM

PD

“ To put it simply, if possible, Greg Howey was all one would want as a business leader, civic leader and friend to so many. Greg was the consummate professional who was always on time, well prepared and willing to help. He and his family made this community a much better place to live, work and serve as a volunteer. He was truly committed to whatever organization he was involved with, freely giving of his time, talent and treasure. As someone who has lived in New Britain for 50+ years, I was so inspired when Greg and Barbara purchased their home in New Britain at a time when the vast majority of other business leaders chose to make their homes elsewhere.

*Rest in Peace Greg and may Barbara, Jason and family take solace in knowing he certainly left an indelible mark in this community.*

*Paul D'Addabbo*

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Paul D'Addabbo - December 18, 2018 at 11:11 AM

HB

“ Dear Barb, Jason, Jonathan, Danika, Bob, and Family, I have known Greg for over sixty years and rarely have I met a person with such high quality and the many fine attributes he possessed. He was always cool, clam, collected, great sense of humor, always wore a smile, He was in my brother's class at Sycamore High School. and when ever I saw Greg, he would always ask about my brother and our family's well being. Greg always put everyone first. Greg's father was an educator and a pillar in the community along with his mother. He inherited his father's judgment and his mother's clam and tender nature. I will always be thankful, that I crossed paths with Greg. May he rest in Peace, and enjoy the Fruits of Heaven he so rightly deserves.

*Henry Burgweger*

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Henry Burgweger - December 18, 2018 at 10:52 AM

ES

“ As the wonderful picture of Greg shows, he had an infectious sense of humor. One of my favorite memories is my penchant of being late for the Executive Committee meetings of New Britain's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness. He never failed to chastise me, with a big smile on his face, for being late. On the rare occasion when I was on time, or even once or twice actually arriving before him, it was then my good fortune to have fun reminding him that I beat him. This fun game we played created a bond between us that led to friendship, I hope for him as well as for me. Greg was a dynamic and caring leader; a strong advocate for all things positive about our city. He will be missed by many and the Friendship Center sends prayerful condolences to the family he loved so dearly.

*Ellen Perkins Simpson  
Executive Director  
Friendship Service Center, Inc.*

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**Ellen Perkins Simpson** - December 17, 2018 at 05:05 PM

JC

“ I clearly remember the excited comments of my dad, Bud Palker, while he recruited Greg for a position at the Torrington Co. Greg's bright outlook, wonderful sense of humor, developing golf game and affable demeanor brightened the Palker household. On behalf of my siblings, I send sincere condolences to Barbara and the Howey family.

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**Jane Palker Cramphin** - December 17, 2018 at 04:57 PM

JK

“ Greg was a great innovator, and generous with his time to his family and to those whom he did not know, and generous with his financial contributions to many worthy entities. May he rest in peace.

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**John King** - December 17, 2018 at 12:31 PM

MG

“ I was very sorry to hear about the passing of Gregory. I had the opportunity to serve on the board of the Hospital for Special Care with him. He had great insight and presented his thoughts very well and always with humor.

Regards,

Michael Genovesi MD

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Michael Genovesi - December 17, 2018 at 10:56 AM

PC

“ We were section mates and classmates at HBS, , First met in sept 1964, Played lots of games together, frequently as team mates. Great to have on same side of ball. A wonderful friend and athlete . Gentleman in every sense. Best to family. Paul Chellgren

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paul chellgren - December 17, 2018 at 10:52 AM

RS

“ Such a fine man. I always liked seeing Greg Howey come around the shop, his smile was the best. He always ribbed me about my putting skills and always put a smile on my face. Mr. Howey also mentioned it at one of the shop Christmas parties so now the whole shop knows about my putting issues. May your ski slops never be icy and your putts away be in the circle of friendship. P.S. A LIFE WELL LIVED. REST IN PEACE MY FRIEND.

-Raymond Stronk

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raymond stronk - December 17, 2018 at 10:37 AM

ED

“ *Barbara and family,*  
*It is with a heavy heart and much sadness that I hear this news. It has been my sincere pleasure to have been able to work at OKAY since Greg bought the company in 1990 and see first hand what a wonderful human being Greg was. He would lead by example and I remember early on Greg being on the production floor and learning first hand what it took to make parts and interacting with the OKAY team. Greg had a marvelous sense of humor and was not shy to interject this in the workplace especially for April Fools Day. Barbara, his love for you and your family was inspiring and showed you can have it all with determination and strong family ties. Greg's commitment to community was inspiring and you couldn't help but want to give back also. Our first March of Dimes walk in the early 90s, when you actually walked 10miles, was great fun and Greg not only donated, but he walked with us. But that was Greg, if he believed in it he did it. I have so many fond memories of this wonderful man and you too Barbara with your frequent participation in Christmas parties and picnics and seeing us "girls" in the office, we felt part of the family too. I'm sorry I will not be in attendance of Greg's services as I'm away, but please know I'm there in spirit. May Greg rest peacefully. My sincere sympathy and love,*  
*Elly Dougherty*

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**Elly Dougherty** - December 17, 2018 at 09:00 AM

RS

“ To: Barbara Howey,  
It was with heavy hearts that we heard about your loss of Greg. We wanted you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your precious family. We have fond memories of our time in California and the fun gatherings we had. You welcomed us with open arms - making us feel comfortable moving across the country, just as you had recently done.  
With sympathy and love, Jeanne and Roger Strode

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**Roger Strode** - December 16, 2018 at 07:54 PM

BD

“ Greg will always be remembered for his service to the community and his concern for those less fortunate. His support of Prudence Crandall Center was vital to our sustainability and so appreciated. I will always remember his broad smile and generous spirit. Peace be to his memory.  
From Barbara Damon, CEO on behalf of all of the staff and board of Prudence Crandall Center

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**Barbara Damon** - December 16, 2018 at 12:18 PM

SA

“ So very sorry to hear about the passing of Greg Howey. I had the honor of meeting him some 30+ years ago. He is a man of integrity, kindness and strength. To see the good he has done and the inspiration he has provided to the community is incredible. He will be missed. My condolences to his family and company.

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**Sue Anderson** - December 16, 2018 at 10:28 AM