



Harold J. Geragosian

November 8, 1927 - August 1, 2022

Attorney Harold J. Geragosian, 94, passed away on Aug. 1. A lifelong New Britain resident, Harold proved that a man's stature can far exceed his physical size. He was born Nov. 8, 1927, the youngest of six children of the late John and Huranoosh (Avedisian) Geragosian. He was the first in his family to finish college, graduating from the University of Connecticut and obtaining his law degree from Boston University. He also served in the U.S. Army for a year.

Harold began practicing law in 1953 and was a one-man general law office for 65 years. Aided by Sandy Clavette and before her, Marion Weber, he practiced criminal and civil law and also helped churches, labor unions and agencies serving the poor. Harold was devoted to legal aid and represented countless individuals regardless of their means. In the 1950s, he helped the Puerto Rican Society draft its charter, and fought discrimination against the community by representing many of its members through the decades. In 2007, the society honored him as Puerto Rican of the Year.

In 1975, Harold was elected president of the New Britain Bar Association. During this time, he took the fight against no-fault insurance (*Gentile v Aldermatt*) through the state courts to the Connecticut Supreme Court, and appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declined to hear the appeal. In the early 1980s, Harold represented workers on both sides of the New Britain municipal corruption scandal, those passed over promotion and others who were accused of job-selling.

Harold served on the boards of Connecticut Legal Services and New Britain EMS. He was elected "Armenian-American Man of the Year" in 1967, but others thought of him as the de facto mayor of Charlestown Beach, where he spent long summer days for decades. He was a lifelong aficionado of Pepe's pizza, and delighted in spending time with his granddaughter, Molly.

Harold and his beloved wife, Harriet (Stefanou) celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary in July. He was predeceased by a brother, John H. Geragosian and four sisters, Alice Geragosian, Margaret Geragosian, Rose Martin and Elizabeth "Betty" Michalowski. He is survived by Harriet, his son, John (Audrey) Geragosian, his granddaughter, Molly, and his grandniece, Terra Michalowski.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 5, at Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection, 1910 Stanley St., New Britain. Calling hours are Thursday, Aug. 4 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Harold's memory may be made to Connecticut Legal Services, 62 Washington Street, 4th Floor, Middletown, CT 06457. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

120 Smalley Street
New Britain, CT 06051

Previous Events

Calling Hours

AUG 4. 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

AUG 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection
1910 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06053

Tribute Wall

PP

“ *Condolences to all who loved him. He was a very good man. Do you remember his laugh? I loved his laugh. Praying for Harold and all his family. Paul Parparian Jr.*

Paul Parparian - August 16, 2022 at 06:03 PM

KP

“ *To Harriet John and family, Harold was my godfather and although we were not always close, I always felt love and respect for him. Living to the age of 94 is remarkable and reading his list of accomplishments makes me proud as I'm sure you are. He was a good man that I am sure you cherished him, and his life should be celebrated!! This great picture of him here brings me back so many years with his contagious smile and generous spirit. I hope you find comfort in your memories.
Karen Parparian*

karen Parparian - August 09, 2022 at 01:52 PM

JS

“ *To the Family of Harold Geragosian, Harold was a fighter for all his clients. I was on the other side of so many cases with him when I worked for the City of New Britain. He will be missed. Joe Skelly*

joe Skelly - August 04, 2022 at 10:08 PM

BK

“ *John, Harriet, Audrey, Molly & family. My condolences on the passing of Harold. May a wonderful person Rest In Peace. Always cherish the fond memories of years past. Condolences, Brendan*

Brendan Kennedy - August 04, 2022 at 07:36 PM

EH

“ Dear Harriet, John, Audrey and Molly-

Our deepest condolences on the passing of Harold. I fondly remember chatting with him on all sorts of topics. But the main thing I remember about Harold is that he cared deeply about people. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Ed & Sheila Haddad - August 04, 2022 at 02:29 PM

TM

“ Dear Harriet, Dear John, Audrey and Molly,

What a sad news !

I have not seen Harold, my cousin, very often, but I remember how friendly he was.

I am sure that he helped a lot of people during his life and that his love was as big as his life !

I will be with you during these celebrations. Much love,

Monique from France, Julie my daughter, and my two grand-daughters Nina and Lottie.

TACHDJIAN Monique - August 04, 2022 at 01:36 PM

TT

“ *John, Audrey, and Molly, our deepest condolences on your loss. While we did non know Harold, he obviously was a very accomplished man and a great citizen of New Britain. We wish and your family peace in this time of sorrow.*

Tom and Becky Trutter - August 04, 2022 at 12:28 PM

LG

“ My husband and myself Lydia Garcia Martinez and Marco Garcia our full sympathy for the family such a great man. I had the honor to know him and his wife Harriet which we love very much very loving and caring people. I will never forget him may he rest in peace in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ

Lydia Martinez Garcia - August 04, 2022 at 11:08 AM

CT

“ Chers cousins et cousines, Nous sommes très tristes de la mort de Harold. Il avait de l'humour, de la générosité. Nous pensons à votre famille, en particulier à Harriet.
Après la mort de Laddie, Betty, Terra et Judy, notre famille est très affectée.
Nous sommes trop loin pour vous rejoindre mais nous pensons à vous très fort.
Clarisse, Marie, Jean-Louis, Madeleine et leurs enfants et petite-fille (à Montréal).
Clarisse Tachdjian

CLARISSE TACHDJIAN - August 04, 2022 at 03:25 AM

HO

“ Our most sincere expression of loss with thoughts and prayers for Harold's well deserved eternal peace, and for Harriet, John and all family and friends for sharing his time with us. We always be graceful and in debtor for his commitment and service to the Puerto Rican Society, and our community. We enjoyed many very special moments when both Harold and Harriet came to visit at the club. Harriet, John and family receive our sincere intentions, and know Harold will always live in our sense of community.
Sincerely The PR Society shared by Héctor Ortiz and Club membership.

Hector L Ortiz - August 03, 2022 at 09:20 PM

MA

“ Dear Harriet, John, and family. My condolences to you on the passing of a wonderful, kind, intelligent proud Armenian man. He did a lot of good to many throughout his long productive life.

mary abrahamian - August 03, 2022 at 05:55 PM

JK

“ Harold was a believer and a fighter. He kept me up all night on more than one occasion during the Civil Service hearings nearly 40 years ago as he passionately defended his clients. He was a man for all seasons. Harriet, John, Audrey and Molly, you have our deepest sympathy as you celebrate a life completely and fully well lived.

John Kling - August 03, 2022 at 08:44 AM

MH

“ Harriet, John, Molly, family and friends, our heartfelt sympathy for the loss of such a wonderful man. John, your dad was always so warm and welcoming as i remember fond memories of growing up on Recano Rd. Peace and comfort to you all. Rest in Peace, Mr. Geragosian. -Mary(Brown) Haggerty and Jim Haggerty

Mary Haggerty - August 03, 2022 at 07:39 AM

CC

“ John (and family), I was saddened to hear the news of your father's passing. He seemed to be an extraordinary individual with a gift of helping others. I am hopeful that your memories will make this time a little easier. With sincere condolences - Cornelia and Nadia Chebinou

Cornelia Chebinou - August 02, 2022 at 03:30 PM



“ *We are praying for you all during this difficult time. It sounds like he lived a very full life and had an incredible impact on the community.*
-The Winfrey Family

Josh Winfrey - August 02, 2022 at 03:27 PM