



Norman E.W. Erickson

July 13, 1924 - October 28, 2014

Norman E.W. Erickson, 90, of Southington and Naples, FL, dearly beloved husband of Barbara June Kleinert Erickson for 68 years, and retired President, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of American Savings Bank, died Tuesday Oct. 28, 2014 at Jerome Home in New Britain. He was predeceased by his beloved son Erick Norman Erickson.

Born in New Britain, son of the late Erick William and Emily Johnson Erickson, he was a former New Britain and Berlin resident, moving to Southington in 1963. A graduate of New Britain High School, class of 1942, where he was on the track and cross country teams, he went on to attend the University of Hartford, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in business administration. As a Navy student, he attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Dartmouth College and the Midshipmen's School at the University of Notre Dame, where he received his commission as an Ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant and served in both World War II and the Korean conflict.

He started his career in banking in 1942 at the age of 18 when he joined the American Savings Bank, then known as the Savings Bank of New Britain. Norm spent more than 50 years with the same bank, working first as a runner delivering messages, and eventually rising to become President, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Active in numerous organizations, he was a Director of the New Britain Chamber of Commerce, where he received the Chamber's Distinguished

Community Service Award in 1991. He was also active with the Long Rivers Council Boy Scouts of America, where he served as Director, and received the Silver Beaver Award, the National Council's distinguished service award. He was also a past president of the New Britain YMCA, served on the board of directors for New Britain General Hospital, the American Savings Bank Foundation, and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, and served on the Board of Regents at the University of Hartford. He was a lifelong member of First Lutheran Church in New Britain, and also attended Emanuel Lutheran Church in Naples, Florida.

Outside of work, Norm spent countless hours on the golf course at Shuttle Meadow Country Club, and at the Vanderbilt Country Club in Naples, Florida. He also enjoyed skiing and tennis. He was an avid traveler, with favorite trips including camping with friends and family on Cape Cod, visiting Bermuda, Hawaii and California, and touring the National Parks.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara, and his brother Carl Everett Erickson, of Berlin; a niece and two nephews, Amy Erickson of Mansfield, MA, Kurt Erickson and his wife Robin of Unionville, and Jeffrey Erickson and his wife Gail of Berlin; five grand-nieces and grand-nephews; and a cousin, Susan Turner, of Farmington. He had a special love for his canine friends, Zsa Zsa and Logan.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 8, at First Lutheran Church, 77 Franklin Square, New Britain. There are no calling hours. Family and friends may gather at a reception at Shuttle Meadow Country Club following the memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675, the Fisher House Foundation, 111 Rockville Pike, Suite 420, Rockville, MD 20850-5168 or to the Boy Scouts of America, 60 Darlin Street, East Hartford, CT 06108. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain, is assisting with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by "clicking" SEND CONDOLENCES at the bottom of the page.

Tribute Wall

ML

“ There is one other thing about Mr. Erickson's career which seems not to have been mentioned in his life summary here - which was, his leadership role in the American life insurance industry, which was via SBLI (Savings Bank Life Insurance) which marketed life insurance through a network of savings banks. SBLI was a very important part of the American life insurance industry. I'm not sure if Mr. Erickson was the founder of SBLI, or just the head of it for a long time - but he was definitely the head of it for a long period of time, which was while he was also head of American Savings Bank.
Matt Lechner

Matt Lechner - August 29, 2025 at 12:45 AM

ML

“ I knew Mr. Erickson and Mrs. Erickson through my friendship with their son, Erick. They were a close family, and Erick greatly looked up to his father including for his accomplishments as a banker. Erick not only respected his father's success in banking, but the fact that Mr. Erickson always conducted himself in banking and in business respecting high personal standards and with very strong and decent ethics toward others, and toward the banking industry. He was a very successful and important banker in Connecticut, and nationally as well in the sense that his ethics and conduct were a well known example to others in banking and business, and to a real degree inspirational to many. He steered his bank through some very difficult times, unscathed. In part, because when he travelled on bank business, he always flew economy as his son Erick told me, because Mr. Erickson felt that paying the extra cost for a first class seat would have been an improper use of the bank's money. Yet in person, he was fun, and very personable. It was certainly a privilege for me to know the Erickson family. Matt Lechner

Matt Lechner - August 28, 2025 at 11:40 PM

RM

“ On behalf of the volunteers, staff and members of the New Britain-Berlin YMCA, I offer all good thoughts to the family of Norman Erickson. As a former board president of the YMCA, Mr. Erickson left a legacy of volunteerism and philanthropy. In my role as CEO, I have heard stories of Mr. Erickson which all elicit the same phrase: "He was a true gentleman." He helped build a stronger YMCA, and we are forever in his debt for his gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Sincerely,

*Richard McCarty
Chief Executive Officer
New Britain-Berlin YMCA*

Richard McCarty - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *Mrs. Erickson & Family*
So sorry to hear about Mr. Erickson's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Cassandra Tyson Darden - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *Dearest friend Barbara- Our sincerest condolences on the loss of your soul-mate He certainly lived the American Dream enjoying a full life with you by his side for 68 years. He will be missed by family and friends!*

Rose & Bill

Rose & Bill Davis - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Dear Barbara.
I am so sorry to learn of Norman's death. After so many years together, you will miss him.

You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,
Maureen Reale

Maureen Reale - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Our deepest sympathy to you Barbara and your family. Norman was a great guy and we will all miss him.

Marit & John Granskog - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Dear Barbara, I was so sorry to read about the death of your beloved Norman. I could see how close you were to him the times I met you together. But you were always a strong woman; I'm sure you will weather this storm. With condolences, AB

Abraham Bernstein MD - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM