



Robert W. Knaus

June 3, 1931 - October 23, 2017

Robert W. Knaus, 86, of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, October 23. Born in New Britain to John F. and Pauline Ruck Knaus, Bob was raised in Newington, graduated from Newington High School in 1949, and married his high school sweetheart and surviving spouse, Janet (Reckert) Knaus. The couple celebrated sixty-five years together in September. They raised their family in New Britain and Kensington, and Giants Neck Beach in the summers.

After a term in the Navy during the Korean conflict, Bob continued his education at Hillyer College and Morse School of Business. Bob spent the early days of his career working closely with his father and his brother Jack (John f. Knaus & Sons), and later with his son Peter (Knaus Building Company), helping to build a significant real estate development and construction company in central Connecticut. Together they developed and built hundreds of homes, and commercial and industrial buildings in Central Connecticut.

Bob developed a life-long love for sailing on Lake Pocotopaug as a youth. He was a man of the sea, and through the years mastered the art of sailboat racing and cruising, completing numerous offshore passages to the Bahamas, and races to Bermuda on his Alden 46, "Nina".

Bob was very active both in the business community and civic community. He was a member of First Church of Christ, NB, Shuttle Meadow Country Club and SMCC Round Table, Niantic Bay Yacht Club, and the Abaco Sailing Club.

He was also an HOCC Corporator, Mooreland Hill School Trustee, CNB Advisory Committee Member, Founding Director of First City Bank, and owner of Eastern Pipe Products Company in Newington.

Although Bob's business acumen and achievements are laudable, most important to him were his family and personal relationships. And kids. Bob loved kids. He imparted his friendliness, generosity and respect equally to all he met. He was easy to talk to, and always took a keen interest in the lives of others. He was a true friend to all who knew him.

Surviving are his three children and spouses, Robin and Stephen Bruno of East Lyme, Peter and Jane Knaus of Kensington, and Jeffery and Amanda Knaus, of Ross CA., grandchildren Jeff and Jaime Bruno, Lindsay and Rocco Flammia, Alexandra and Ross Heise, Eric and Greta Knaus, Catherine and Jeff Larson, and Jocelyn Knaus, Benjamin Knaus and Emma Knaus and great-grandchildren Daniella Bruno, Finn Bruno, and Rocco Flammia.

Bob's genuine love of life, completely infectious smile and wonderful nature will be cherished and missed by all.

The family expresses sincere gratitude to the staff at Greentree Manor of Waterford for their skilled care and heart felt compassion.

Funeral services will be held Friday 10 AM at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 830 Corbin Avenue, New Britain. Burial with military honors will be in Fairview Cemetery, New Britain. Calling hours are Thursday 4 to 7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to HOCC (Development Office), 100 Grand Street, New Britain, CT 06051. 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

OCT **26**. 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

OCT **27**. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Church of Christ, Congregational
830 Corbin Ave
New Britain, CT 06052

Tribute Wall

AS

“ Dear Peter and Family,

I was sorry to hear of your father's death. I hope that the memories you shared and the love and support of your family and friends will provide some measure of comfort during this sad time.

*With deepest sympathy,
Alex*

Alexandra Scott - November 22, 2017 at 03:01 PM

MK

“ Peter and family, Our condolences on the loss of you father, Mike Kallberg and Maryann

Mike Kallberg - October 30, 2017 at 09:56 PM

BG

“ Warm Condolences from Bill, David, and Tom Gryboski in Atlanta. Bob taught us all so much, he has a special place in each of our hearts!

I will always remember Bob telling me every summer standing on the wall between our houses.....'Billy, fall is coming, the shimmer on the water is changing, summer will be over soon.'

Bill Gryboski - October 30, 2017 at 02:46 PM

JG

“ My sympathies to Bob's family. Please find some comfort for your great loss in the promise found at John 11:25.

Jon Genier - October 30, 2017 at 08:28 AM

EC

“ Peter, Jane and family,
Sorry to hear about your dad's passing and our condolences go out to you. We know he will be missed by his family and friends.
Elliot and Janice

Elliot Cyr - October 27, 2017 at 05:26 AM

MC

“ Give you all my sympathy. So sorry to hear about his passing.
Margaret Fox

Monica Cook - October 26, 2017 at 09:00 AM

TF

“ We are saddened to hear of Bob's passing. Our most heartfelt sorrow and condolences.

The Capozzi family - October 26, 2017 at 07:04 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of
Robert W. Knaus.



October 26, 2017 at 07:01 AM

RP

“ My deepest sympathy to the Knauss family for your loss of a very nice man.

Roger Perno - October 26, 2017 at 06:00 AM

CG

“ I am going to miss my cousin Bob so very much. Haven't seen him in many years but I will never forget the year I lived with Bob, Jack, Aunt Pauline and Uncle Fred. Way back in 1943. Besides being remembered for all his construction work, his greatest quality was the love that he showed everyone and especially the remarkable quality of loving and giving that he endowed in all the members of his family. My love and deepest condolences to all.

Carole (Ruck) Gonzales

Carole Gonzales - October 25, 2017 at 10:22 PM

SL

“ There are no words at this time that could possibly say what we feel! We were very sad to hear about Bob.....his smile.....his friendly hello.....will surely be missed by many of his friends and neighbor's at G.N.B.....

*Our thoughts are with Janet.....Robin....and all of his family
Most Sincerely, Sandy and Jim Lafond*

Sandy and Jim Lafond - October 25, 2017 at 10:06 PM

MC

“ You will be surely missed in Hope Town at your winter home. Thanks for sharing your coconuts with us local Bahamians hanging out at north end beach. You even told us the hidden spot for the ladder when your where not here in the summer to make it easier for us to get the high ones. My fondest memory was my daughters cockatiel flew away from in the settlement of Hope Town. 2 days later I got a message saying you had the bird at your house. I came down with the cage and you were having a gin and tonic with the bird. It made your day to know you found the owner of the bird. Out thoughts and prayers to the family, especially Janet. Sending you a kiss Bob, I know you sure loved kissing the gals.

Monica Cook - October 25, 2017 at 08:54 PM

LM

“ We will miss seeing Bob on the north end and sailing on Grumpy Old Men. We send love and prayers to the family.

love,
Lisa and Morgan

Lisa Manley - October 25, 2017 at 06:06 PM

LG

“ To the Knaus family, So sorry to hear of the loss of Bob. He was always so friendly and full of life! I remember him from the sailing days off the Island. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Linda Manwaring Griffiths

Linda Griffiths - October 25, 2017 at 04:23 PM

DM

“ Peter and Jane,
We're so sorry to hear of your Dads passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
Don and Bernie Michaud

Don and Bernie Michaud - October 25, 2017 at 02:03 PM

JW

“ Bob was an exceptional man who always had a kind word and smile for everyone. Sue and I send our love and condolences.

JAMES WESTERVELT - October 25, 2017 at 12:14 PM

SP

“ So sorry to read of Bob's passing. I knew Bob when I worked for the City of New Britain.
I liked Bob very much. He was very friendly and always had a smile on his face. My thoughts and prayers are with the Knaus family.
God bless.

Sebastian R. Papa - October 25, 2017 at 08:47 AM

CP

“ Although we didn't cross Bob and Janet's path often I always remember how welcoming they both were when I married into the family....we remember his outgoing personality and that engaging smile that was infectious. Our friends once described our memories as " the cushions of our life "...We are sure that you have many and that he will be missed by you all. May God bring you comfort and peace during this most difficult time.

With deepest sympathy and much love, Caryn and Skip Powers

Caryn and Skip Powers - October 24, 2017 at 07:44 PM