



Russell W. Ahlquist

August 23, 1920 - November 24, 2011

Russell William Ahlquist, 91, beloved husband of Evelyn Peterson Ahlquist, of Kensington died Thursday November 24, 2011. Born August 23, 1920 in New Britain, CT, he was the son of the late Carl Albin Ahlquist and Sigrid Swanson Ahlquist.

He graduated from New Britain High School in 1938.

He served as a medical technician in the Army Medical Corps, 103rd general hospital in the European theater of operations during World War II and was discharged with military honors.

Early in his career he was a draftsman with The Stanley Works and later a process engineer at New Britain Machine. He began his Emhart Corporation career with The American Hardware Corporation in 1948 later becoming vice president of manufacturing before his appointment in 1969 as a corporate group vice president.

He retired from Emhart in 1977 as Group President, Specialty Products.

Russell's education included undergraduate degrees with high honors in both Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Engineering from The University of Hartford. In 1959 he completed his Masters in Business Administration at the University of Connecticut, again with honors, where he was a member of Beta Gamma Sigma. In 1967 he completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University. Russell was an astute investor and enjoyed golf, particularly with the Connecticut State Seniors, bowling and family time. He was a 57 year member of the Masons belonging to Friendship Lodge of AF & AM and a life-long member of First Lutheran Church of the Reformation in New Britain. He was a director of J. M. Ney Company; a corporator of The Hospital of Central Connecticut and the former Berlin Savings Bank; and a regent of the University of Hartford. He was a long time member and a director of Shuttle Meadow Country Club. In addition to his wife of 71 years, he is survived by his daughter Beverly A. Harris and her husband Donald C. Harris of Berlin. Two grandsons Todd C. Harris and his wife Cynthia of Plantsville, and Mark W. Harris and his wife Jennifer of Berlin. He leaves four great-grandchildren Eric, Abigail, Nicole, and Jacob Russell Harris. He is survived by many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by an infant son, Keith Russell Ahlquist, three sisters Evelyn V. Ahlquist,

Lillian Peplau, Ruth Peplau and five brothers Roger, Kenneth, Eric, Waldo, and Everett Ahlquist. Russell was a very special person. He took a genuine interest in you and could offer wise advice coupled with compassion and love. He took great pride in his family and each individual accomplishment. His influence will live on through his loved ones. The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Ledgecrest Health Care Center.

Funeral and burial are private. There are no calling hours. Donations may be made to the First Lutheran Church, 77 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 or a charity of the donors choice. The Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by clicking on "Add Condolences" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

SJ

“ Dear Bev and Don,
Our deepest sympathy on the passing of your father. His obituary paints a picture of an exceptional gentleman. May your pain be eased in time and replaced with wonderful memories of shared time together. You will be in our prayers. Love, Sandy, Jeremy, Jade and Lily...The Jedziniak-Mellitz Family

Sandy Jedziniak - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ Dear Bev, Don and Family,
Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss of your dear father. After reading the beautiful obituary it is easy to understand what a special person your father was. You certainly have many, many fond memories. Wish I had met him in person. Love, Ginny Jedziniak

Ginny Jedziniak - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ My sincere condolences to Evelyn, Bev, Don and the other family members

I had the pleasure to play golf on several occasions with Russ and his good friend, Harold at Race

Brook C.C. Gary and I would always love to watch Russ' excitement when he would make excellent use of his "strokes" to further our team's success.

During my days at Shuttle Meadow, he was always a fixture on the course.

A true gentleman, I'm pleased to have had the opportunity to have known him

John Peterson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ Uncle Russ always, always, made you feel special and loved, no matter what. He never failed to take an interest in us or the lives of our sons and grandchildren, and he will be greatly missed. In a world filled with so much selfishness and hate, he was truly one of the "good guys." He was one of the last true gentlemen, in every sense of the word, and we are all the greater because God loaned him to us for those 91 years. In some respects, a great light of decency and goodness has been extinguished, and we grieve for our loss. Yet we can take comfort knowing that he will live on in our hearts and minds. We thank you for everything that you were to us, Uncle Russ!

George and Linda Peterson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM