



Wallace A. Bickley

April 11, 1926 - October 25, 2018

Wallace Bickley (“Wally”), 92, passed away peacefully on Thursday (October 25, 2018). He was a devoted husband of 62 years to the late Sophia “Sandy” (Sanzaro) Bickley. Born in Hartford, son of the late Wallace and Mary (Schuster) Bickley. Wally grew up in Ellington where he attended a one room schoolhouse and spent his childhood on the family farm milking cows and picking tobacco and vegetables (mainly cucumbers, which he quickly grew to hate). He graduated from Rockville High School, Class of 1944 and was a World War II US Navy veteran.

Wally received a Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting from Bentley College and was a longtime Kensington resident. He was an Accounting Manager at the former Prentice Manufacturing in Kensington and later in his career worked as the Business Manager at Child and Family Services (now The Village for Families and Children) in Hartford, retiring in 1988. He was a member of St. Paul Church in Kensington; was a former member and officer of the Berlin Lions Club; and was a member of the Ellington Post of The American Legion. Wally’s greatest joy was his family. He was a devoted father who was more than proud of his children. He had a strong work ethic that he instilled in them. Additionally, he enjoyed teaching his children how to ice skate, play cards, and took an interest in everything they did from sporting events to performances at halftime shows at high school football and basketball games. He ensured his family enjoyed annual summer vacations, of which many were spent at Newfound Lake in New Hampshire with close friends. He loved the

relaxation there, driving the boat while the kids waterskied and having double solitaire tournaments with his kids.

He was a social man who loved a good party with dancing and friends. As a couple, he and his wife Sandy threw many dinner parties and loved entertaining, especially their annual New Year's Eve party with their closest friends. Like many from that generation, they enjoyed cocktail hour that included his favorite drink, a Manhattan. One of Wally's enjoyments was dining at Sans Souci restaurant. There was no other restaurant in his mind, and over the years he and Sandy proudly brought many friends and family there.

Wally is survived by his four children, Alan Bickley of Manchester; Tracey Eck and her husband, Bill of Wethersfield; Robin Burns and her husband Tim of West Hartford; and Barry Bickley, MD and his wife, Janice of North Andover, MA. He is also survived by a sister, Justina "Tina" McLaughlin of Madison, along with several nieces and nephews.

He was loved and will be deeply missed by his eleven grandchildren, AJ, Melissa (Garfield) and Nichole Bickley, Katie (D'Agostino) and Kyle Eck, Tom, Libby and Lexie Burns; and Brianna, Michael and Jaime Bickley.

Besides his wife Sophia, he was predeceased by a sister, Eileen Lanz; a step brother, Earl DeCarli; and a step sister, Amelia Stanwood.

The family would like to thank the staff at both Arbor Rose and Southington Care Center to the superb loving care they provided to Wally during his time at each of these facilities.

Calling hours are Tuesday from 5 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Funeral services are Wednesday at 9 AM at Carlson Funeral Home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial 10 AM at St. Paul Church, 479 Alling Street, Kensington. Burial with military honors will follow in St. Mary Cemetery, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in the name of Wallace Bickley may be made to "Arbor Rose at Jerome Home", 975 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT 06052. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Mary Cemetery

1141 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06053

Previous Events

Calling Hours

OCT **30**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Calling Hours

OCT **31**. 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **31**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Church
485 Alling Street
CT 06037

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Thoughts and prayers are with the Bickley family, especially Tracey and Robin and their families at this sad time. I knew Wally for many years and always enjoyed seeing him at Dr. Strouch's office. I know he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Jane Holmstrom

Jane Holmstrom - October 29, 2018 at 07:13 AM

TR

Oh Jane! You are so sweet to remember him...he sure was a character! Thank you for your memorial.

Tracey - October 29, 2018 at 03:58 PM

LM

“ Many fond Butternut Lane Memories of your dad and mine enjoying early morning walks with Joe Briganti. May he rest I peace

louise anne colamussi mercadante - October 28, 2018 at 08:19 PM

TR

Louanne, thank you for your memory. Those three did love to walk!

Tracey - October 29, 2018 at 03:59 PM

WS

“ Tracey,
My sympathies on the loss of your beloved father. My thoughts are with you and yours during this difficult time.

Warren

warren soucy - October 28, 2018 at 12:28 PM

TR

Oh Warren! How sweet of you! Thank you for your thoughtfulness.
Tracey

Tracey - October 28, 2018 at 03:19 PM

RB

“ *My deepest sympathy to his children in the loss of their dad. He was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. He had a ready smile and often a good joke. I met Wally at Prentice in the early 60's as well his beloved wife Sandra. Their parties were well planned, the food, drinks, laughs etc. all excellent and never to be forgotten. His family will mourn his loss as he joins his greatest love, his wife Sophis (Sandra). Peace, love and all good things to his family as they journey through this phase in their lives.*

Sincerely
Rita H. Beaulieu

Rita H. Beaulieu - October 28, 2018 at 10:44 AM

LL

“ *To the Buckley Family, Wally was a character. He was a nice man. Prayers for all of you. Lisa Pinter LPN*

Lisa Pinter LPN - October 27, 2018 at 02:36 PM

TR

Lisa, you were a Godsend to Wally and our family. Thank you for all of your care, compassion, and understanding. Xoxo
Tracey

Tracey - October 28, 2018 at 02:21 PM

RB

Elaine and I last saw Wally in January. Hard to realize it was the last time with him. 44 years for me knowing him and the family. Elaine has known him for much longer. Great memories with Wally and all of the Bickley family for all of those years and times in Kensington, Nashua, and Newfound Lake. Rest in peace Wally...

rob bean - October 29, 2018 at 11:55 AM