



Gregory Raymond Happe

November 1, 1929 - April 26, 2020

Gregory Raymond Happe died April 26, 2020 at home in Houston, TX. He was born November 1, 1929, second son of Howard C. Happe, Sr. and Rose Walker Happe in Bronx, NY. He was reared in Queens Village, NY where he attended Our Lady of Lourdes grammar school. It was there that he learned to love his Catholic faith and it was there he made many lifelong friendships. He graduated from Sewanhaka High School, Floral Park, NY in 1948. He excelled in baseball and golf. He won the Queens Interscholastic golf championship in 1948. A sportswriter for the Long Island Daily Press described Greg as a "giant killer" and "luminary" on the links. His love of golf was a lifelong passion and he listed playing the old course at St. Andrew's in Scotland as one of his favorite memories. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1950 and served on the USS Wisconsin until his honorable discharge in 1954. It was on a visit home on leave in 1953 that he met the love of his life, Julia Ann McGuire. They married October 9, 1954 at Resurrection Ascension Catholic church in Rego Park, NY and remained happily married until Julie's death in 2016. Greg graduated from New York University in 1962 with a Bachelor of Business Administration.

Greg began his career at ESSO before joining Ebasco Services in 1966. Greg was transferred to Houston, TX in 1970 where the family became members of St. Cecilia's parish. Greg retired in 1994 after a long and successful career with Ebasco.

He loved his family and cherished family time above all else. He was an avid sports fan with an encyclopedic knowledge of sports. He loved baseball, football, and ice hockey and shared this love with his grandson, Darious, as they spent time viewing sporting events, critiquing the coaching, and calling the plays before the referee. As a child he caddied to earn pocket money and caddied for Babe Ruth on several occasions. He was a devoted Brooklyn Dodger fan. When the Dodgers relocated to Los Angeles, he switched his allegiance to the New York Mets, and, finally to the Houston Astros. Although not a New York Yankee fan, Greg was proud to have witnessed Don Larsen pitch a perfect game in the 5th game of the 1956 World Series against the Dodgers. He loved the New York Football Giants through thick and thin and proudly sported a "Wait Until Next Year" button on his jacket. He once took his family to Giant training camp in Connecticut to watch Frank Gifford and the rest of the team practice instead of taking the family to the Statue of Liberty as suggested by his wife. He was ecstatic when the Giants won the Super Bowl in 1987. He adored ice hockey and achieved a lifelong goal of attending a professional hockey game in Canada.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard Happe, Sr., Rose Happe, brothers, Howard Happe, Jr., and Kenneth Happe. He is survived by his daughters, Anne-Marie Happe of Decatur, GA; Ellen Happe Phillips (Terry) of Houston, TX; Deirdre Happe Workman of Windsor, CO (Tom); Monica Rose Happe of Austin, TX and three grandsons, Che Elkeilani of Istanbul, Turkey; Darious James Mohebi of Atlanta, GA; and Cyrus Happe Mohebi of Austin, TX.

Greg will be laid to rest at VA Houston National Cemetery in a private ceremony on May 6, 2020. A memorial mass will be celebrated at St. Cecilia Catholic Church at a later date.

The family would especially like to thank Jenifer Cramer Levins, RN, Jackie Johnson, and Nathalie Yeka for the loving and compassionate care provided to both Julie Happe and Greg Happe.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Angela House, Houston, TX.

Tribute Wall



“ Gregory Raymond Happe

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ Gregory Raymond Happe

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ Gregory Raymond Happe

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ Gregory Raymond Happe

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ 96 files added to the album Life Tributes



Detting Funeral Home - May 27, 2020 at 05:17 PM

HF

“ We have known our friend Greg for a year or so, a resident like us, at the Eagle's Trace retirement community, Houston, Texas. We were close friends with common interest having lived and worked in New York, big red apple, and surrounding area, shared similar life styles, family backgrounds, and religious Catholic beliefs. We enjoyed the company of each other at various outings, sports events, movies, eateries and so on. In particular, we remember, attending Mass together at St John Vianney Catholic Church, and staying after Mass while our friend Greg prayed at the altar for his deceased wife Julie, an act of true love before God. We miss you Greg and may God bless.
Love, Helen & Henry

Henry N Feste - May 04, 2020 at 04:57 PM

PW

“ My sympathy to the family of Greg Happe. How he loved to talk about his 4 "girls" and how proud he was to tell me how the girls met every year for a week of being together by themselves and catching up on all the news. I feel honored to have been his friend here at Eagle's Trace Retirement Community. I remember how after Mass on Sundays he always set aside private time to pray to his beloved wife, Julia, gone but not forgotten. May this good man rest in peace.

Pat Wilhite - May 04, 2020 at 12:53 AM

SG

“ Sincere condolences to Gregory's family and friends. I never met the man but had the absolute pleasure of talking to him for a brief moment and singing "Happy Birthday" to him by video on his 90th year celebrations. I could tell right away he was a true gentleman and as they say in Ireland "A man you'd go for a pint with". Rest in peace Gregory. Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis. 🙏🙏🙏🙏💔

Sean Mc Guinness - May 03, 2020 at 10:00 PM

MM

“ Our deepest sympathy to Anne Marie, Ellen, Julie, Monica & their families. We were sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He was a kind and friendly man who loved talking sports and his family. I enjoyed playing Irish music on my accordion for both your mom and dad at a couple of parties.

My parents thought highly of Greg and your parents were good friends. On behalf of my family and my siblings, we extend our deepest condolences and best wishes.

I will remember him and all of you in my prayers. R.I.P. Greg! 🙏❤️



Michael McAliney - May 03, 2020 at 01:44 PM

WS

“ Greg was a dear friend of mine, we played golf together at Hearthstone CC for years. He was a true gentleman and loved playing. Being almost a decade younger, I was every impressed that Greg continued to walk the 18 holes till age 75. That became my goal, which I reached several years later, thanks Greg. I now ride the cart. I was fortunate to meet Julia and some of his daughters years later. He was blessed to have such a nice family. My sincere condolences.

William Simmons - May 03, 2020 at 01:41 PM

MC

I have fond memories of going with Aunt Kath. to your house in Queens Village for Christmas dinner, your parents were always so welcoming. The last memories I have of meeting them was when they visited Ireland in the 90`s, they broke away from their tour and we met them in Longford and took them to visit all the familiar places. They spent the night with my sister Annie & her family, and enjoyed watching old videos of relatives. They came to Mayo next day with Johnny and me and we took them to visit Knock Shrine and had an Irish dinner before they headed for the airport. They were a wonderful couple. Our sincere condolences to all the Happe family.

Mary & Johnny Carney

Mary Carney - May 03, 2020 at 02:21 PM

RJ

Greg Happe was a dear neighbor of mine. Many were the times we would chit-chat while raking up "those @\$% leaves" that fell every winter. His kind demeanor and his sharp wit were well loved! I am truly saddened by his passing and extend my sympathies to his daughters.

Rebecca Lee Jones - May 04, 2020 at 11:10 AM

TC

Monica and Family, Mr. Happe couldn't be in a better place than with his beloved Julia. Our deepest sympathy to you all. The Calvert Family, Dea ,Debbie and Darla.

The Calverts - May 06, 2020 at 09:59 AM