



Lawrence W. Harrington

May 10, 1926 - October 12, 2019

Lawrence W. (L.W./Larry) Harrington, age 93, of East Dundee, IL passed away peacefully in the comfort of his home on Saturday, October 12, 2019. Larry was born in Milwaukee, WI on May 10, 1926 and was the eldest son of Lawrence and Gertrude (nee Netz) Harrington.

On May 24, 1947 he married the love of his life, Merlyn J. Matson. Merlyn preceded Larry in death on September 28, 1998 after celebrating 51 years of marriage. Larry was a lifelong Green Bay Packers fan and a Packers Shareholder.

He was a WWII Navy veteran, Pacific Theater, serving from June 1944 to June 1946. He received 3 medals for his service. He served in the Naval Reserves until 1952 and was a member of the Army R.O.T.C. from 1951 - 1953. He attended the University of Wisconsin from 1949 -1953. He graduated from UW Madison in December 2000 after taking time off to pursue his career and help raise his family. L.W. retired from the Soo Line Railroad in 1990 as V.P. Resources after 41 years in the Railroad industry beginning with the Chicago, Milwaukee St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company in 1949. L.W. spent most of his career with the Milwaukee Road, which was bought by the Soo Line in 1985. He was elected a V.P. in 1968 and continued as a V.P. until his retirement. He was a member of the Milwaukee Road Historical Society and past member of the Fox Valley Model Railroad Club. Larry was involved with the Boy Scouts of America for many years, beginning in the mid-60's at the Troop level (Scoutmaster), and continuing on after his children were grown. He served with the Three Fires Council, St. Charles IL and was involved with Scouting at the international level, becoming a World Baden-Powell Fellow. Larry traveled widely after retirement and was inspired to set up a Spanish Immersion Scholarship at E.C.C. after several trips to South America and Spain.

Besides many friends, he is survived by his children: Michael, Patrick, David, Laurie (Dennis) Curley, Jill and Barbara Harrington. Other survivors include his grandchildren: Ryan (Jill LaPearl) Harrington, Katherine (Brandon Hollander) Dickey; his great-grandchildren: Michael and Eric Harrington and his dear friends Sandra and Rick Lea and their children Andrew and Nicholas. He is also survived by his sister-in-law; Ruth Gamroth and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife Merlyn, his daughter-in-law

Sheryl Harrington and his brother Roger Harrington.

Our father was an example and a mentor to so many, as well as us, his family. He taught us how to live, and at the end of his long, full life, how to die; both with integrity, dignity, humor and grace. We are grateful for every moment we had with him.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 pm at Miller Funeral Home, West Dundee, Illinois. The family requests no flowers, please.

Events

NOV **Visitation** 01:00PM - 04:00PM

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Miller Funeral Home

504 W. Main Street, West Dundee, IL, US, 60118

Comments



“ I rode with Larry on the 7:04 am Milwaukee Road train out of Elgin every work day when in town. We sat on the top level of the 4th car rear left and shared stories and newspapers. Larry always made it a great start to the day. This was between 1974 and 1977.

Rick Burn
Holland, Michigan
E mail: rhburn3@gmail.com

Richard H Burn - October 26, 2019 at 08:14 PM



“ Pam Meaker sent a virtual gift in memory of Lawrence W. Harrington



Pam Meaker - October 25, 2019 at 12:08 AM



“ I just read about your dad online . I am so deeply sorry for your loss. He was a great dad and very fortunate to have you six as his children . ! !

Pam - October 25, 2019 at 12:16 AM



“ no words can fill the void

Eldon Smith - October 26, 2019 at 12:35 PM



“ He was always a Pleasant to be around growing up with Barb, he will be greatly missed. Loved his laugh.

Helen Kallas McMahon - November 02, 2019 at 11:06 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Larry and I came together when after the purchase of the Milwaukee Road I was assigned to come to Chicago and work during the transition. Larry was so very instrumental in working with me and guiding me through the Milwaukee Road organization. He also was my guiding light in my transition from a finance and acctg background to VP- Human Resources following in his footsteps. He was a special person. I will never forget his smile and easy way of imparting thoughtful solutions. Larry was the best mentor one could have.

Jim Johnswon - November 06, 2019 at 09:21 AM



“ I worked for your dad in the Labor Relation Dept on the former Milwaukee Road for several years. He was a terrific boss, and I would imagine he was also a dare good father. Well I believe he lived a good life and a long one. I am deeply sorry for your loss, and I know he

will be missed ... Lyle Pope

Lyle Pope - November 06, 2019 at 10:16 PM