



Mr. Harold S. Davenport

October 21, 1923 - September 20, 2024

Harold Shaner Davenport passed away peacefully on September 20, 2024 at the age of 100 after a lifetime of entertaining his children, grandchildren, friends, and every audience member that entered a theater where he was on stage. He was a most remarkable, talented, and charming man.

Born on October 21, 1923, Harry grew up in Pottstown, PA and attended the Hill School. He matriculated to Williams College, where his education was interrupted by his service as a First Lieutenant in the Navy (1942 – 46) during WWII. He graduated from Williams College in 1946, entering into a lifetime career in sales.

Harry married Nancy Manship in December 1952. They moved to Baltimore from Pennsylvania in 1959, where they developed lasting bonds with friends who became family. Harry and Nancy enjoyed almost 50 years of marriage up until her death in 2002.

Both had lovely singing voices, and their family and friends have wonderful memories of listening to them harmonize. It was music that led Harry to perform on multiple amateur stages, and his years of involvement with the Paint & Powder Club in Baltimore were a source of enjoyment for him and his family. He performed in many singing roles, becoming well known for his rendition of “Mr. Cellophane” from the musical, Chicago.

Harry's interests were many and varied. In 1969, wanting their children to experience the excitement of travel, he and Nancy bought a motor home for road trips around the country. He loved surf fishing, crabbing, golf, poker, and followed the Orioles faithfully. His interest in lifelong learning found him post-retirement taking classes in German and art while also volunteering in multiple activities. He particularly embraced and treasured his role as a grandfather and later, as a great grandfather.

For almost 20 years, Harry was a dedicated and active resident of the Blakehurst Retirement Community and maintained a full schedule with regular bridge games, croquet matches, and special events, such as producing and emceeding a community talent show. In short, many adventures were had throughout his lifetime.

He is predeceased by parents Clarence & Margaret Davenport and his beloved wife Nancy. He is survived by his children Robin (Scott Patterson), Sandy (Jim Martin) and David (Damien Cuypers), grandchildren Kendall and Becca (James McNally), great grandchildren Quinn and Reese, step-grandchildren Katie and Jason (Sara), and a host of extended family and friends. He is also survived by his dear companion of over 17 years, Ethel Weber, and her family.

Harry's spirit of good humor and warm friendship will remain in the lives of all who knew him. His family is deeply grateful to the staff at Blakehurst Retirement Community/Chestnut Green for their devotion and care, particularly over the past 10 months. Friends may call at St. David's Episcopal Church 4700 Roland Ave. Baltimore 21210 on Saturday, October 12th, from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m., immediately followed by a Celebration of Life Service beginning at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to a charity of your choice.

PLEASE NOTE THE UPDATED SERVICE LOCATION

Previous Events

Receiving of Friends

OCT **12**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. David's Episcopal Church
4700 Roland Ave
Baltimore, MD 21210

Celebration of Life

OCT **12**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. David's Episcopal Church
4700 Roland Ave
Baltimore, MD 21210

Tribute Wall

CP

“ I wish to extend my condolences to the Davenport family. I was fortunate to know and work for Hal during my employment at Textile Chemical as he hired me in 1969. Hal was not only a great boss to work for, but also a wonderful person to know. He was well liked and respected by all who knew him at Textile Chemical. He kept in touch after his retirement in the late 1980's, and I always enjoyed hearing from him. Hal will be missed by all that knew him and I will always have fond memories of him.

Sincerely,

Carl Ponicki

Carl B. Ponicki - September 26, 2024 at 09:34 AM