



Edmond J. Wakeen

February 18, 1930 - January 2, 2022

Edmond Joseph Wakeen, age 91, of Hampton, New Hampshire died peacefully at home with his loving wife of 65 years by his side, on Sunday, January 2, 2022. Edmond lived with Alzheimer's Disease for many years; yet his love, gratitude, compassion and humor always shone through. He was a gentle, pious, loving man and will be missed by many.

Edmond was born in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1930. He was the son of the late Nicholas and Regina (Nasby) Wakeen. Edmond graduated from North High School in Worcester and thereafter joined the U.S. Navy where he was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone for two years. Upon leaving the Navy, Edmond attended college at the University of Oklahoma where he graduated in 1957 with a degree in Nuclear Physics.

After his marriage to Catherine Gallagher in 1957, the couple moved to Culver City, California where Edmond worked for Howard Hughes Aircraft Company. He was involved with the space program and wrote many books on the subject. In 1960, the couple chose to settle in Tewksbury, Massachusetts to raise their family where they resided for 27 years. During this time, Edmond was a communicant of St. William's Church and participated in much volunteer work. He also very much enjoyed coaching his son's little league teams.

After working 14 years at Avco Research and Development Company in Everett, Massachusetts, Edmond embarked on an adventurous change of career and began frequently traveling to Madras, India, where he organized a large factory for Pierce Leather Imports. He later worked for the Booker T. Washington Foundation in Washington, DC, obtaining grants for under-served communities until his retirement in 1987 at which time he and Catherine moved to Hampton, NH.

Edmond was a communicant of Our Lady of the Miraculous Church in Hampton and was a member of the Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph's Men's Club. He was a very religious man, and his faith was undying. Edmond made lasting friendships while volunteering at the food pantry for St. Vincent De Paul Society, dedicating ten selfless years of service to help those in need.

Edmond was a devoted husband; his love for his wife was always new. His greatest joys were spending time with his family, walking along the beach, playing a good game of golf and sitting with friends during his morning excursions to the local coffee shop.

Edmond is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Catherine (Gallagher) Wakeen and his six children: Michael Wakeen and his wife Jean, Methuen, MA; Shawn Wakeen, Redondo Beach, CA; David Wakeen and his wife Victoria, Clearwater, FL; Ann Marie Wakeen, Woodbury, VT; Paula (Wakeen) Warner and her husband Eric Warner, Plum Island, MA; Nancy (Wakeen) White and her husband Dustin White, Salem, NH.

Edmond was also dearly loved by 13 grandchildren: Shane Wakeen and his wife Jenni, Derek Wakeen, Catherine O'Brien, Kendra Wakeen, Matthew Warner, Andrew Grasso, Harry O'Brien, Brian Warner, McKenzie White, Mikayla Mae White, Devon White, Colin White, and Sophia Wakeen. Edmond was truly blessed to know his two great-grandsons, Tyler and Mason Wakeen, who brought him much joy.

Edmond was predeceased by his sister Lucille Wakeen and his brothers Kenneth and Francis Wakeen and is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Services: A private, family Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church at a future date to be announced. Burial will take place in High Street Cemetery, Hampton, NH. In lieu of flowers, if desired, donations may be made to OLMM Outreach Program located at 289 Lafayette Road, Hampton, NH 03842.

Comments



“ Uncle Eddie was a wonderful man of principle and love. I will miss him. While my memory is a bit foggy, I believe we spent many years going to Uncle Eddie and Auntie Catherine's for Easter. One thing I could count on was that he was excited to see me. He had that effect on people. You were the important one in the room, not him. I loved that about him. He was an enthusiastic supporter of my Little League baseball dreams. Without fail, he would have a catch with me whenever we visited. In reading his obituary, it brought back a lot for me. I recall his strong religious commitment, his enthusiasm, passion, and big, open heart that was always filled with possibility. Those brothers (and sister) grew up in a difficult environment in Worcester. But Uncle Eddie made the most of his natural-born talent, just like my dad, his brother, Ken did. And he found Auntie Catherine, a wonderful partner all of these years. She is such an angel. To all of my cousins, and to Auntie Catherine, I am sorry for your loss. I know what that feels like, having lost Uncle Kenny six years ago. We are better people because of them. They set the example of what a quality person and a meaningful life is. And we follow it solely because they were on this earth. It's a legacy we are fortunate to carry on. May Uncle Eddie's memory live on in us. Love to all. Your cousin Steve (and Suzanne too!)

Steve Wakeen - March 15 at 02:41 PM



“ My memories of Uncle Eddie were that of a kind, gentle, loving spirit who always had a huge grin on his face..When we walked into the room he would light up with excitement to see us,(It did not matter our age..) he would grab hold of our faces, look us in the eye tell us how much he loved us. "you know I love you right" He wanted us to know that.

The Wakeen gene is strong because of the goodness that dad and his brothers so freely gave to all they knew. The Wakeens have held held a special place my heart for all these years... so on this day I am saddened that I will never see him again. My Love for you Auntie Cathy, as you continue your journey.

Good bye for now, with heartfelt love to Uncle Eddie's family and friends.

Sandra Wakeen and Mike too!

Sandra Wakeen - January 13 at 11:09 AM



“ My father passed on January 2, 2022 away from this world to his next great adventure.
He taught us all so much.
That life and our sheer existence is either a miracle or something else.
That being born was the greatest gift or an arduous trial depending on how we viewed it.
That our families have a higher value than any possession we can ever obtain.
He taught us that our love and service to our fellow man is the only real gift that raises the quality of this world and changes it for the better.
That an argument is never won, but, with agreement we all win.
Daddio touched the lives of so many and will be deeply missed evermore.
My one regret is that I never truly and fully appreciated him until he was gone.
As I sit and ponder his and our collective existence, I realize like many of us, he enjoyed a good meal and drink. So the next time you're enjoying your favorite meal, raise a glass to my father and yours, and bid them farewell and Godspeed.
Appreciate our fathers for who and what they are and realize they won't be here forever.
I love you Daddio.

David Wakeen - January 10 at 10:52 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the entire Wakeen Family .Eddie was one in a million. He loved his children ,grandchildren ,and his 2 greatgrandchildren, but most of all, he loved his wife. They were inseparable for 65 years, He always said "I 'm the luckiest guy .I married an Irish girl." His neighbors ,which I am one, will miss him dearly. He was The Mayor of THE LANE. On good days, you would find Eddie sitting on the deck sporting his well known panama hat waving and talking to everyone. I personally will miss him. I will miss waving over to him. .I will miss his smile. He was a good man, a good friend, and over the years, always there to help out a neighbor .Rest in peace , Eddie and pray for us. God Bless Elaine Riley

elaine riley - January 08 at 08:15 PM



“ Additional photos of Ed, Cathy and Daughter Paula



eric warne - January 06 at 06:07 PM



“ Ed thanks for always listening and all your support and prayers. You were such a great father inlaw and we enjoyed laughs and goofing around. Your support will never be forgotten



eric warne - January 06 at 03:32 PM



“ RIP Ed. I've had the pleasure of knowing Ed and his family for many years. He always greeted me with a big smile and a big hug. I won't forget him. My condolences.

Darlene - January 06 at 01:59 PM