



Holyoke Lewis Whitney

October 14, 1932 - June 15, 2025

Sherborn, MA - Holyoke Lewis Whitney, 92, former resident of Sherborn MA passed away on June 15, 2025 in Rye NH. He was the son of Richard and Dorothy (Wells) Whitney of Dedham, MA, where he grew up.

Following graduation from St. Mark's school in Southborough, MA, he enlisted in the US Army. He was honorably discharged in 1953 as a Sergeant First Class, having served in the 25th Infantry Division where he saw combat with Chinese and North Korean forces.

When he returned from service, he graduated from Harvard College with honors. His business career began and remained in the insurance industry, including the development of consolidated group trust (CGT); the second largest "multiple choice trust" provider in the United States.

A natural entrepreneur, his interests extended to the development, manufacturing and sale of Heritage Kayaks.

He also developed the Penobscot Salmon Farm in Franklin, Maine.

He felt greatly indebted to many associates who contributed to his business success. Additionally, Hol was involved in several outside organizations, including the Carroll Center for the Blind in Newton, Mass where he served as

a Director for over ten years and as President of the Board in his last two years.

Outside interests included family camping, hiking and boating under sail and power, which led to wonderful trips with family and friends. Drawing and painting were natural talents he took great pleasure in. He was devoted to his family, his wife Joanne of 69 years, his daughter Susan and son Richard, five grandchildren Samantha, Emily, Brian, Lauren, Hannah and two great-grandchildren Dane and Alice.

Hol would often retreat to his favorite spot, his Grandfather's armchair by the fireplace. He had a generous heart of compassion, honesty and integrity.

Our family extends our deep appreciation to Sunrise at Lynnfield and Benchmark at Rye as well as many angels at Beacon Hospice.

Family and friends will gather to honor and remember Holyoke for a memorial service on Saturday, July 12, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at The Pilgrim Church, 25 S Main St., Sherborn, MA 01770.

Immediately following the service, please join the family at the Fireside Tavern in Sherborn. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to woundedwarriors.com by clicking here. (https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=11585&ovr_acv_id=16821&campaignSource=ONLINE&source=BS25001AAABREAA&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=1755672625&gbraid=0AAAAADg1WjroC-tP0l-vmj7P8s5AuCWDL&gclid=Cj0KCQjw097CBhDIARIsAJ3-nxfZDCsBs0A89BPSWDhqdUm_X30-gnrQGGpVOI4X4_78ZPOsz3yLmYoaAtPjEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds)

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 12. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pilgrim Church
25 S Main Street
Sherborn, MA 01770

Tribute Wall

BR

“ Hol and I were friends since grade school. In the mid-to late 60s when Hol was a national competitor in kayaking I asked him what his national standing was. He said, “In the East about fifth, right behind Bobby Kennedy.” He also said, “ I’m thirty-eight competing mostly against men in Their 20s. They have the stamina to go the distance. I have to rely on discipline.” On another occasion he told me he had kayaked over the falls on the Charles River in South Natick. Having landed successfully he had all he could do to paddle against the river trying to suck him back into the falls, but he made it. What courage! What resolve!

Bill Raeder

Bill Raeder - July 07, 2025 at 03:17 PM

SO

“ What an incredible man. I enjoyed his boating stories and will think of him and his wife when my wife and I do the great loop in the future. It was an honor to know him and be part of his care when he needed it.

Steve Ostrander at Sunrise of Lynnfield

Steve ostrander - June 29, 2025 at 09:23 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Holyoke Lewis Whitney.



June 25, 2025 at 07:54 PM