



Walter S. Helfer

August 16, 1931 - January 14, 2020

New Rochelle, NY - Walter Sutcliffe Helfer of New Rochelle, NY and Hampton, NH, died on January 13th, 2020 in Durham, NH. He was born to the late Dorothy (Sutcliffe) Helfer and Walter Helfer on August 16th, 1931.

He is survived by his brother Michael Helfer, of Norwalk, CT; his beloved wife Lorraine (Voepel) Helfer; his son Walter Voepel Helfer, of New Rochelle; his daughter Margaret Herlehy, of Hampton; his daughter Liann Kimball, and son-in-law William Kimball, of Southbury, CT; and his five cherished granddaughters.

He was a veteran of the Korean War, received his Master's degree from Hunter College in New York City, and taught sixth-grade science and math at George M. Davis Elementary School in New Rochelle. His passions included, but were not limited to: competition fast-pitch softball, speed-skating, surfing, Dixieland jazz, music for pipe organs, and classical music. He played bassoon in Westchester (NY) Symphonies, and bassoon, saxophone, and clarinet in Mount Vernon's (NY) series of Broadway musicals for charity.

He was a member of St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church in New Rochelle. A service commemorating his life will be held at an undetermined date. His ashes will be spread on the Atlantic Ocean in a traditional Surfer's Memorial in the spring.

One of his most popular activities was the afternoon skating program of Davis School held at Rye Playland of NY. Hundreds of students who passed through this program made their memories of "Mr. Helfer" known to us throughout our lives.

Tribute Wall



“ *Walter S. Helfer*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *Dear Helfer family, My Pops was Bob Warren from Pelham. When I was a youngster we met your family at PLAYLAND - it seemed so big and fun. Later, Pop flew East from San Diego and I saw his old Banjo in the Cessna --- he said it was time to play it again! (I guess he gave it to your Dad to enjoy) I know you must smile when you remember happy family times spent together. We still have my Mom, Tish up in Greenville, SC. Love to all, Rob Warren , Kennesaw GA*

Rob Warren - June 15, 2022 at 11:09 AM



“ *Hello family of Walter. I just came across this. He was my teacher in 6th grade 1960-1 and it was the best year of my schooling, period. I liked him so much that i went back to visit him throughout 7th and 8th grade!! Hopefully i was not a nuisance and he was always gracious. He was an uncommonly good person. glenn handler*

Glenn Handler - May 23, 2022 at 06:45 PM



“ *OMG. I've been looking for your Dad for years. I talk about him all the time. My memories of going ice skating with him are my fondest ones from Davis School. When I got the chances to hold his hand and skate really fast around the rink I felt like I was flying. I'm smiling now just thinking about it. He was and the memories he contributed to will be passed on and on.*

Barbara Abel - September 30, 2021 at 06:21 AM

MR

“ Margaret and family,
I am so sad to hear of your father's passing. He was such a kind and generous soul! Just last month I told my daughter of the wonderful teachers Mr. Helper and Mr. Celestino who would bring us on the bus, help us lace our skates, wipe off cold hands when we fell and be wonderful role models for a whole generation of kids. Thanks for sharing your dad with us. He is remembered for his warm heart 50 years later by this grateful Davis elementary student. May his memory be a blessing.
With heartfelt sympathy,
Meredith Morgan Rossborough

meredith morgan rossborough - March 06, 2021 at 05:05 PM

EE

“ By any chance, was this Walter Helfer the same Walter Helfer who taught elementary school?

Eric J Ellman - December 03, 2020 at 02:45 PM

MH

Yes Eric. My dad taught at Davis Elementary School in New Rochelle for many years.

Margaret Herlehy - March 28, 2021 at 01:33 AM

LE

“ Lorraine I am so sorry to hear of Walter's passing! I have such fond memories of you both at North Beach along the wall. Sending you hugs

Leslie - January 31, 2020 at 03:00 PM

JG

“ To Lorraine, Michael, Liann, Margaret, Walter, & Grand Children,
Our Thoughts and Prayers have each of you in mind during this
difficult time. We have many enjoyable holiday Memories which
included happy times with Walter and all of you.

Love,

John & Joanne Giordano

John & Joanne Giordano - January 19, 2020 at 11:51 AM