



Ralph Joseph Maffei

October 23, 1931 - March 3, 2021

Ralph Joseph Maffei, devoted father and loving husband, passed away at the age of 89 on March 3rd from Covid-related complications with his family at his side in Fort Myers, FL after a valiant fight. Ralph's family takes comfort in knowing he had the richest of lives and helped many along the way, including countless friends and admirers from his years in Massachusetts, New York, and Florida.

Ralph was born to Ben and Josephine Maffei in Worcester, MA. An energetic athlete and scholar, Ralph lettered in football, baseball, and track. He graduated from Harvard University, magna cum laude, and later from Harvard Law School. Ralph enjoyed a successful career as a lawyer and senior executive with a focus on real estate at several major corporations including Federated Department Stores, Zayre and Wang. In 1958, he married Sheila Quinn, with whom he had four children, Greg, Margot, Anne, and John, and eventually ten grandchildren.

Ralph will be remembered for his wit and infectious laugh. His children fondly remember his lines like "we're off like a herd of turtles" when the family scrambled to leave the house together or the playful "go study" when he saw one of his kids was idling. A lifelong learner and critical thinker, Ralph was always consuming books and happy to discuss topics from history to sports and religion to politics.

Ralph will also be remembered for his optimism and generosity. Whether helping to build a hospital in Poland, or volunteering at Legal Aid or church, he

loved helping others and was a true friend to many from diverse walks of life. Ralph was a great counselor and conversationalist, genuinely curious about people, asking questions and sharing ideas. People loved Ralph's wonderful blend of savvy and wisdom, toughness and kindness.

The world has lost a great one, but with Ralph's entrance, heaven is markedly enhanced. Details about a service will be forthcoming.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Joseph Maffei*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Ralph Joseph Maffei*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Dear Sheila and Family,*

Across many borders go forth our condolences at this sad time for each of you and for so many.

We were indeed privileged to be friends with dear Ralph for a strong number of years. We thoroughly enjoyed his full and spirited association with us, whether here in Concord, in Florida, or even on the high seas. His manner and that of you, Sheila, was consistently welcoming, accommodating, and delighting. He was most special.

One story: Inevitably, at the beginning of an in-person or telephone conversation, Ralph would first inquire if we felt that our investments were appropriately placed, and that we were comfortable with them. He easily came forth with recommended percentages of such to be confirmed by us!

Now, may he deservedly have the rewards of his years lived in love, faith, and service. So be it!

To each of you, we wish an abiding peace that assuredly will be yours in its own time and pacing, accompanied by joy-filled memories.

Affectionately, as ever,

Margaret Frazier-Plodzick and Kevin Thomas Plodzick

Margaret Frazier-Plodzick & Kevin Plodzick - March 10, 2021 at 02:19 PM