



Dr. Richard A. Halapin

October 18, 1939 - November 16, 2018

On November 16, 2018, Dr. Richard A. Halapin, age 79, of McCandless formerly of the North Side, beloved fiancé of Patty Doyle; father of Leesa (Todd Orange) Halapin, Richard Michael (Joel) Halapin, Natalie (Matthew Giordanengo) Halapin & Richard Alan Halapin; brother, Robert (Gloria Jean) Halapin; grandfather of Alex Orange, Jack Halapin, Mikey Halapin, Gunner Dongieux;

Richard died peacefully at home following a long battle with cancer, surrounded by his children. Richard was born on October 18, 1939 to Helen and Michael Halapin in Pittsburgh, PA. He had received a scholarship to attend the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned his Bachelor's and Master's in Chemical Engineering, a Master's in Business Administration, and then a Doctorate in Operations Research. In 1965, Richard joined the United States Air Force, ultimately achieving the rank of Colonel after transitioning to the Air Force Reserves in 1979. During his military career, Richard served as a William Foster Visiting Scholar and political analyst, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, on Strategic Arms Reduction (START) negotiations, and had been awarded multiple honors and medals, including The Meritorious Service Medal and The Legion of Merit. As a civilian, held positions in the fields of Nuclear and Chemical Engineering and later as faculty at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In his retired life, Richard achieved his life-long dream of spending his time sailing all along the East Coast and Florida Keys,

with his fiancée, Patty at his side. When not busy exploring the coastline, Richard and Patty became well-known in the swing dancing circles of Northern Pittsburgh.

Friends received Monday, November 19th, from 2 - 4 & 7 - 9 pm at Simons Funeral Home, Inc., 7720 Perry Highway, Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, 10:00 am, at St. Andrew the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church, 235 Logan Road. Gibsonia, PA. 15044. Contributions may be made In Lieu of flowers to St. Andrew the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church. www.simonsfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

North Side Catholic Cemetery

204 Cemetery Lane
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **19**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.
7720 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Visitation

NOV **19**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.
7720 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV **20**. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church
235 Logan Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044

Tribute Wall

JM

“ I had the privilege to meet Rich within the last year. I will always hold on to, and aspire to, his joy, wit, warmth and wisdom. Just a few months before his passing I challenged him with an engineering puzzle, one which had stumped almost every engineer and engineering professor I've ever shown it to. But he nailed it. With a spark in his eye and a grin. When I saw him a few weeks before he passed he told me of his plans to enclose his porch so he could sit out there in the upcoming summers, with the same spark and the same grin he had when he solved the puzzle. Or talked about his kids. Or dancing with Patty in the supermarket aisles. Or sailing the keys. Forever hopeful. Forever positive. Forever Rich. May that spark live on in me and everyone else he touched. I wish I'd met him sooner, but I'm just truly blessed I met him at all. Dance on, Rich. Dance on.

Jeff Mikula - November 27, 2018 at 09:23 AM