



In Memoriam

Fall 2025 Perspective

Patricia Giblin Hack '39 LIG

Patricia Giblin Hack, longtime resident of Greenwich, CT and Conway, MI, passed away peacefully on May 7th, surrounded by family. She was 104 years old.



She is survived by her children: Shelley Hack (Harry Winer), Shannon Burns (Charles), W. Torrance Hack (Emily), Shawn von Gal (Peter), Lance Hack and Babe Hack, eleven grandchildren, and seventeen great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband William (Bill) T. Hack, her brothers James Giblin and Peter Giblin, and her granddaughter Anna Hack.

Her incredible lifespan began on Nov. 6, 1920, just after the Treaty of Versailles officially ended WWI, Warren Harding was elected president, and Prohibition began. She had fascinating stories about major world events, and adapted adroitly to the enormous changes during her lifetime. (Except maybe the computer stuff.)

Known as Patty, Pat, or Patsy, she was enthusiastic, fun-loving, confident, smart, creative, uncompromising, and possessed of a wicked quick wit. She was a true traveler, rarely followed trends, and had a great eye for fabulous things. Her singing voice was beautiful. She loved a good deal and could spot one from a mile away. Quite stylish, she greatly enjoyed dressing up for a good party with family and friends. But above all, she was adventurous and didn't miss a trick in experiencing life.

Born and raised in Detroit, Patty often reminisced about the excitement of growing up during the golden age of the automobile- spotting the Dodge girls in their custom-made convertibles, accidentally spilling her drink on Henry Ford's jacket. Summers spent with her cousins on Crooked Lake were the highpoint of her year, and her love of spending time in Conway continued during her later years at her cottage on the lake.

But Detroit felt confining to her, and she longed to see the world. When the fallout from the depression and her father's heart attack thwarted plans for college after graduating in '39 from University Liggett School, she applied for a stewardess position- still a very new profession for young women. Accepted by Pennsylvania Central Airlines, she decided to travel solo thru Mexico- dressed like a boy to avoid unwanted attention- before embarking on her new career. Her job was a thrill- often helping pilots

navigate during storms over Northern Michigan with her knowledge of the shapes of the lakes, and experiencing the tension of flying into Washington, D.C. the day of Pearl Harbor.

With the war causing layoffs in the industry, she moved to a residence for young ladies in NYC. After a brief stint working for the Signal Corps, she became a hand model, and later a figure model for Dorothy Hood, the famed illustrator who, together with art director Harry Rodman, changed fashion advertising strategies with their weekly full page illustrated ads for Lord & Taylor in the New York Times.

When she met Bill Hack at, of all places, a funeral, the mutual attraction was immediate and they were engaged after the 3rd date, then married shortly thereafter in NYC on June 8, 1945.

After a few years, they found their perfect house in Greenwich- a rambler that could fit a growing family. It was a dream come true for Patty- a wonderful husband she adored, a spacious house in the country with a beautiful view, and eventually 6 children. Patty and Bill's love for travel took them to places like Thailand, Europe, and the Pacific Islands. Life was good, and she often said "I loved every minute of it."

The family was devastated when Bill passed away unexpectedly in 1976. Patty missed him terribly for the rest of her days. But she remained strong, and gradually rebuilt her life. She still dreamed of traveling more, and, planning the itineraries herself, explored exotic places few single women would have dared to go.

Mom- You fostered inventive play, providing a wide array of toys and contraptions with the expectation that we'd use our imaginations and get dirty in the process. You gave us opportunities to foster our independence, like throwing us out of the house with a pocketful of Fig Newtons and instructions not to return until you rang the porch bell. Maybe you had no idea of some of the stupid things we did, maybe you did, and just trusted we'd avoid the oft-repeated Trilogy of Disaster: don't poke out an eye, chip a tooth, or bust a head.

You gave us a deep and lasting appreciation of nature and paying attention to all 5 senses; picnics under blooming cherry trees, taking us out of school to enjoy long rides on beautiful days in your convertible or autumn days at the beach, convincing Dad to drive deep into private Florida orange groves, herding us out of the car to smell the orange blossoms, regardless of potential trespassing charges. You inspired us to be adventurous and fun by just being you.

You touched the lives in some inspiring way of everyone who knew you. You and Dad gave us many strengths, many memories, much love, and the best childhood anyone could wish for. We will miss you. Safe travels.

Love,
Your children

Lydia Kerr Lee '44 CDS

Mrs. John R. Lee (Lydia), formerly of Winnetka and Northfield, died on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at her residence at North Shore Place in Northbrook, 6 days shy of her 99th birthday!



Lydia was born May 7, 1926 in Detroit, MI to Harry Watt and Mary (Pope) Kerr. Educated at Grosse Pointe Country Day School (1944, Cum Laude) and graduated from Vassar College (1947, BA in Art History), she was also a member of Tau Beta Association of Michigan.

Lydia worked as a nurse's aide at Detroit's Harper Hospital during WWII, taught Art and Art History at Grosse Pointe Country Day School for 2 years and then worked as a typist at the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency. Lydia starred in one of the first daytime television shows on WJBK-TV, and went on to assist in producing that same station's "Stars of Tomorrow" show, working with Mel Torme, George Shearing, Oscar Peterson, Merv Griffin and others.

On September 10, 1955, Lydia married John R. ("Bill") Lee at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. They moved to San Francisco, CA where Lydia enjoyed singing and dancing in Junior League shows, as she did in Detroit, and later in Atlanta and Chicago.

Lydia devoted extensive time to volunteer work, as Board Member, Sustainer and Benefit Chair, providing fundraising and public relations for Junior League of Chicago, Chicago Vassar Club, Planned Parenthood, Cook County Hospital, Infant Welfare, North Shore Mental Health, Evanston Hospital, Winnetka Antiques Show, and Kenilworth Union Church's annual Rummage Sale.

She was a member of Green Meadows Garden Club of the North Shore and the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Her interests and hobbies included travel, golf, tennis, art and music, theater and dance, flowers, birds, stars, decor, sewing and needlepoint. Lydia was quite the seamstress and was voted one of the "10 Best Dressed Women in Chicago".

Lydia was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, John R. "Bill" Lee, in 2018. She is survived by her children Catherine Lee Brandstetter (Kurt Boehlein), Alexandra Lee, Mary Lee Broccolo (Chris), and grandchildren Andra Lee, Laura Brandstetter (Alex Kaminski), and Nathan Brandstetter. A private memorial service will take place at Kenilworth Union Church, in Kenilworth, IL.

William Robertson Hamilton III '49 DUS

William "Bill" Robertson Hamilton III, 94, passed away peacefully at home on July 8, 2025. Born in



Detroit, Michigan, Bill lived a full and accomplished life marked by dedication to family, business, community, and his lifelong passion for golf.

Bill was a graduate of Detroit University School and went on to attend the University of Virginia, where he was a proud member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

He built a successful business career as the owner of Scioto Metals, Inc., leading the company for over 30 years before retiring to Sarasota, Florida, in 1998. Even in retirement, Bill remained active and engaged, especially in his community and on the golf course.

A committed community leader, Bill served as President of the Big Brothers & Big Sisters Association and was a member of the Rotary Club and very active with the Columbus District Golf Association (CDGA). His generous spirit and leadership left a lasting impact on many.

Golf was one of Bill's greatest passions. A member at Brookside Golf & Country Club, Firestone Country Club, Gator Creek Golf Club, and TPC Prestancia, Bill played to a single-digit handicap well into his 80s. One of his many golfing highlights came at age 68, when he won the Club Championship (Championship Flight) at Brookside.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife Susan Whitehead Hamilton, his parents, Dorothy Millis Hamilton and William R. Hamilton II, and his brother David M. Hamilton.

He is survived by his brother, John M. Hamilton, and his loving daughters: Sarah (Scott) Immell, Jane (Kurt) Michael, and Lynne (John) Damer. He also leaves behind five cherished grandchildren – Chris (Danielle), Courtney, Nick (Jen), Jessica (Mike), and Claire (DJ) – and eight adored great-grandchildren: Stella, Grady, Vivianne, Benjamin, Ada, Annie, Joy, and Layla.

Bill Hamilton will be remembered for his integrity, warmth, sharp wit, and unwavering commitment to his family and community. He leaves behind a legacy of love, leadership, and a life well lived.

Judith Richards Spurgin '54 CDS



Judith Richards Spurgin passed away on September 15, 2024 at the age of 88. Judith Richards was born on May 7, 1936, in Detroit, grew up in Grosse Pointe, and after receiving her BA in English from Carleton College in 1958, fulfilled her dream of moving to Chicago, which she never left! She found employment at Time Incorporated as one of the world's first commercial computer programmers.

She "retired to parenthood" in 1965 and pursued graduate studies in history, but returned to Time in 1980 "because the world didn't need another college teacher of British history." In 1982, as Judith Houston, she came to the Chicago Architecture Foundation (which at

the time owned and operated Glessner House) and completed the class on Clarke House, which opened that same year. She was appointed the first Tour Director of Clarke House, and in 1983, completed the weekend docent training which included Glessner House and the Loop walking tour. She continued as Tour Director for a decade, and served as a mentor, sponsor, and certifier for many new docents.

Ruth Roby Glancy '58 LIG

Ruth Roby Glancy, a major figure in Detroit's civic and charitable life whose long leadership of the Detroit Zoological Society (DZS) helped transform the Detroit Zoo in the modern era, died on July 18, 2025 after a lengthy illness, her family reported. She was 84.

Mrs. Glancy's husband, Alfred R. Glancy III, former chairman of Michigan Consolidated Gas Company, died in 2019. She is survived by her daughter Joan Courts Glancy, known as Jody; son Alfred Robinson Glancy IV, known as Rob (Leigh); son Andrew; grandchildren Tucker Noble Scott, Alfred Robinson Glancy V, Matilda Glancy Scott, Ruth Roby Scott, and Payson David Glancy. Her son Douglas Roby Glancy died in 2017.

Cynthia Ford reflected on her friendship with Ruth: "I was fortunate to meet Ruth shortly after moving to Detroit over 40 years ago and she immediately became a lifelong friend and perhaps, unintentionally, a mentor. Her devotion to our region was paramount to her and she shared with me, always by example, the value of discernment, volunteerism, leadership and friendship and loyalty. Ruth excelled at them all."

Rick Platt, who served on the DZS board with her, recalled that Ruth's arrangement with him from Day One was simple. "I'll raise the money, and you keep track of it," she told him. Platt said that Ruth "used to joke that when she entered a room, everyone fled because they knew she would hit them up for the Zoo—and be successful in doing so!"

Ron Kagan, former director of the Detroit Zoo, said: "During a period in the 1990s and early 2000s Ruth's incredible passion and determination enabled, and led, DZS's extraordinary growth and success. Her commitment to securing major resources and a dynamic future for DZS (and numerous other Detroit cultural institutions) was unprecedented."

One major improvement at the Zoo was a new veterinary care facility opened in 2004. "Ruth led with great intelligence and poise," said Dr. Ann Duncan, the Zoo's Associate VP of Life Sciences. "The veterinary staff is incredibly appreciative of her support for construction of the Ruth Roby Glancy Animal Health Complex. We are so glad to be able to offer excellent care to the animals at the zoo, and having a state-of-the-art facility makes that possible."

Ruth and Al Glancy made significant contributions to local nonprofit organizations, both holding positions of leadership over decades. Mrs. Glancy's position at the Zoo stood out for its dedication and longevity. "She was here every day," said Jane Alessandrini, Vice President of Development of the Zoo. "She was personally involved in raising \$30 million for Zoo improvements that included the National Amphibian Conservation Center, the Arctic Ring of Life, the Ford Education Center and the animal health complex which was named after her in recognition of not only her leadership but also the major gifts she and her husband gave to the facility."

Reflecting on her early life, Ruth said her decision to dedicate her life to volunteerism was the result of the times in which she grew up, when women did not have the opportunities to work that they now have. "In the 1960s, jobs for educated women in positions other than nursing and teaching were difficult to find," she said. "Furthermore, I wanted to have a role in raising our children and flexibility with my schedule, so I became very involved as a volunteer."

And involved she became. The list of organizations in which she served on the board or held leadership positions includes Detroit Receiving Hospital, Harper Grace Hospital, University of Michigan Medicine, University Liggett School, Junior League of Detroit, Detroit Institute for Children, New Detroit, The Purple Rose Theater, Michigan Nature Conservancy, The McGregor Fund, Respiratory Foundation of Southeast Michigan, Detroit Institute of Arts, Music Hall, Michigan Cancer Foundation and United Foundation. Awards she received from these and other organizations indicate heartfelt appreciation for her contributions over the years.

A Detroiter to the core, Ruth was born at Harper Hospital on January 28, 1941, to parents Ruth Clippert Roby and Douglas Ferguson Roby, the youngest of three children. Her father was president of an auto supply company and later became president of the US Olympic Committee. The young family lived in northwest Detroit. Ruth first attended a local elementary and then rode a bus across town to Liggett School which at that time was a private girls school in Indian Village.

When Ruth was 12 the family moved to a home on the Huron River near Ann Arbor in Superior Township. She attended local schools before moving to The Dana Hall School in Wellesley, MA, where she became a boarding student. The University of Michigan followed from which she graduated in 1962 with a BA in English.

She married Al Glancy on September 15, 1962. Al Glancy was a Grosse Pointe Shores resident, so after honeymooning in Hawaii, the couple settled in that community and started a family. Shortly thereafter the Glancy family moved to Grosse Pointe Farms.

Noted for an easy laugh and vivid sense of humor, Ruth at age 12 decided to write "My Life Story" which included the line: "My first year wasn't very exciting." In today's parlance that would draw an LOL from online readers. In her penciled young girl's autobiography it reflects a dedication to facts that undergirded her views about life and its challenges.

Ruth overcame several health issues and at one point looking back she wrote: "I have been very blessed in my life by loving family, cherished and compassionate friends and extraordinary health care providers. I have had wonderful opportunities to serve in capacities to make our city, region, state and county a better place."

Mary Ainslie Talbot '58 LIG



Mary Ainslie Talbot age 84, of Fenton, passed away in July 2025. Mary was born October 19, 1940 in Detroit, the daughter of Richard and Janet (Hankinson) Ford. She

was a 1958 graduate of University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods. She married Neal Alfred Talbot May 16, 1964 in Birmingham, MI and he preceded her in death October 1, 2005. She had resided in Fenton since 2024 coming from Holly/Clawson. Mary was a member of Huntington Woods Lutheran Church, in Huntington Woods. She enjoyed doing puzzle, coloring, crossword puzzles and spending time with her family.

Surviving are: her children, Timothy Talbot of Holly, Michael Talbot of Holly and Mary (Trent) Bitzer of Fenton; sister, Janey Campbell of North Carolina; and nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her parents, Richard and Janet Ford; and brother, Thomas Ford.

Margery Whiteman '58 LIG



Margery Whiteman, a longtime leader of Capital Region arts, education and women's rights organizations, died peacefully on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at her Albany home, with her family at hand. She had fought off many illnesses and injuries in recent years, always recuperating with the determination and vigor that characterized her every endeavor, but finally succumbed, with grace, to a third bout of cancer. She was 84.

Mrs. Whiteman was for more than six decades the cherished wife of Michael Whiteman, a founding partner of Whiteman Osterman Hanna, the Capital Region's largest law firm, and was the mother of three and the grandmother of six. Her professional roles in development fueled the growth of many non-profit organizations, and her personal mentorship blazed a path for countless young professionals in the community and beyond over the years.

Born on August 13, 1940, in Detroit, Mich., she was the third child of Katharine Russel and Wendell Goddard. She graduated in 1958 from the University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., and earned a bachelor's degree cum laude from Brown University in 1963. She had met Michael Whiteman at a mutual friend's apartment in Cambridge, Mass., in 1962, and moved there to pursue graduate studies; she was awarded a Master's degree by Harvard University's Graduate School of Education in 1964 and later, pursued doctoral studies at the University at Albany.

The Whitemans moved to Albany's Center Square in 1964, after their marriage in Grosse Pointe, and remained residents of the neighborhood for the rest of their lives, during which years Mr. Whiteman became counsel to Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and Gov. Malcolm Wilson, before entering private law practice. While fully engaged in family activities, Mrs. Whiteman also pursued a professional path. She was Director of Development of Emma Willard School from 1979 to 1991, and Director of Advancement Services at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute from 1991 to 2001. From 2011 to 2015, she commuted to New York City, where she worked as Director of Development of Riverside Church. Throughout the years, her academic training and professional experience led her to working as a consultant to progressive schools and arts organizations, including the Little Red Schoolhouse in New York and Olana in Hudson.

But it was in her volunteer work that her impact was most significantly felt, notably in her energetic advocacy for better governance in the non-profit sector. Underscoring her determined support for women's reproductive rights, she was Chair of the Board of Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood and

twice chaired the board of Family Planning Advocates of New York State. She was a key volunteer at the Robert C. Parker School since its founding and served many years as a member and Chair of its Board of Trustees. Her lifelong love of great music drew her to Albany Pro Musica, the region's leading choral ensemble; both Whitemans sang in the chorus for many years, and both served terms as president of the APM Board of Directors. They were jointly honored three years ago with the Karen R. Hitchcock Award, presented annually to honor individuals' enduring impact in advancing the choral arts in Upstate New York. She was a founding board member of Capital Region Classical, and with her husband, enjoyed CRC's many concerts at the Union College Chapel. Her unswerving commitment to others was reflected in such volunteer activity as serving at a soup kitchen and recording audio for people with vision impairment.

The Whitemans traveled the world widely, often returning to Europe; Mrs. Whiteman was a Francophile and spoke the language fluently. She was an amateur chef, read broadly and embraced theater and music, with particular appreciation for chamber music and opera. She was an athlete throughout her life, from youth field hockey to tennis until recently, and she felt at home on the water and in many outdoor activities.

In addition to her husband, Michael, Mrs. Whiteman is survived by her children, Bailey Katharine Whiteman (Doug Belling) of Takoma Park, Md., Stephen Hart Whiteman (Tanya Rose) of London, and Eliza Davenport Kinsey (Dirk) of Philadelphia; by her grandchildren, Jonathan Peter Whiteman Belling, Erin Whiteman Belling, Annika Maeve Rose-Whiteman, Callan Twain Rose-Whiteman, Roan Eero Kinsey and Arlo Ocean Kinsey; by her brother and sister-in-law, Wendell Hume and Dessa Paulson Goddard; by her brother-in-law, Philip Power; and her sister-in-law, Lois Whiteman Pertsemidis; and by several nephews, nieces, great-nieces and great-nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Russel Hart Goddard; her sister, Sarah Goddard Power; and her brother-in-law, Demetrius Pertsemidis.

Margaret "Peggy" Nye Carpenter '61 GPUS

Margaret "Peggy" Nye Carpenter, 81, passed away in May 2025. Although Peggy spent the final months of her life in poor health and paralyzed from a fall, she maintained a positive attitude and stoic demeanor. She faced each day with her sweet personality, all the while describing her circumstances as, "It is what it is."



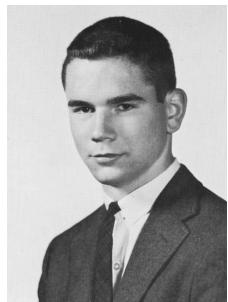
Born Oct. 23, 1943, in Buffalo, N.Y., Peggy moved to Grosse Pointe at a young age. She attended Grosse Pointe public schools, as well as University Liggett School. She then attended Hood College in Frederick, Md. Upon graduation, Peggy moved to Florida and performed mission work for one year with special needs children. She returned to Michigan to attend the University of Michigan where she received a Master of Library Science degree in 1969. This degree led to her working at both the Wayne State University library and the St. John Hospital medical library, where she was later appointed director. During her career at St. John's, she was well-respected by the health care workers who sought her assistance. Peggy also worked at the Henry Ford Hospital medical library in Detroit.

Recently, Peggy's personal time was spent with her family and a few very close friends. She avidly followed the lives of her niece, Carrie, and her nephew, Steven, and their children, Rachel, Tucker, Mason and Charlie. She took great interest in the details of their lives. Sundays were her favorite day of the week, where she scheduled Zoom calls with her sister-in-law, niece and nephew to catch up on the latest news.

Peggy also generously gave her time to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church where she was a deacon and later an elder. She was involved in many events at the Presbytery as well.

Peggy was predeceased by her parents, Horace Carpenter and Ruth Nye Carpenter; brother, Horace Nye Carpenter (Hanny); and twin sister, Elizabeth "Betty" Nye Carpenter. She is survived by her sister-in-law and close friend, Lynn Schneider; Steven Gorey Carpenter and his son, Charlie; and Carolyn Carpenter Devlin, and her children, Rachel, Tucker and Mason.

Alexander "Sandy" Blain IV '62 GPUS



Former Grosse Pointe resident, Alexander Blain IV, died peacefully at his home in New London, NH on October 17th, 2024 following a long illness.

Known as Sandy, he was born in Detroit at Alexander Blain Hospital to Dr. Alexander Blain III and Josephine Bowen Blain Lewis. He was raised in Indian Village and Grosse Pointe, graduating from Grosse Pointe University School in 1962.

After graduation from Washington and Jefferson College in 1966, Sandy served as an officer in the U.S. Army.

Following discharge, he returned to Michigan where he began a career as a Management Consultant and Systems Analyst for various manufacturing firms.

Sandy and his wife Sharon, raised their sons, Peter and Paul in Grosse Pointe, and later moved to New London, NH to be closer to their children.

Sandy was a devoted, loving husband, father and grandfather. He instilled in all the importance of studying hard, kindness and caring for those in need.

Sandy is survived by his wife of 45 years, Sharon; sons, Peter (Nina) Marblehead, MA and Paul (Michael Macko) of San Francisco, CA; granddaughter Abbie, and grandson Jack of Marblehead, MA. Brother Bruce, of Lakeland, FL and sister Jody, of Chippewa Lake, OH.

Patty Frank '63 LIG

Hyacinths and Shostakovich, Memories of Patty

By Rebecca B. Rank



My memories of Patty are housed within the framework of adolescence and long summers, days very much like today. We were the two girls from our class at Liggett who lived in Lafayette Park, a community comprised of attached, one and two-story co-ops. We each lived in a one-story building across Chateaufort from one another. Our bonding, however, was not driven so much by proximity, but more by a mutual sense of adventure, passionate feelings about literature, art and music, and a similar way of viewing things. We knew we had a world of yet-unknown experiences waiting for us, and shared the belief that we were ready for anything. Let's say we were simpatico.

Though one can't rely on memory for accuracy, I will tell you a few of my memories which have meant so much to me, small moments that at once characterize, and offer, a few glimpses into this earnest, brilliant, kind-hearted, beautiful and even sometimes mysterious girl I knew as Patty.

We shared summer forays: an impulsive buying spree at a Winkelman's somewhere north of us on Woodward, an area that might now be named, "sketchy," frequent on- foot darts over to Greek Town where one could still stand outside a restaurant/tavern and listen to live Greek music, long convertible rides down Lake Shore when, for a few weeks every summer, the fish flies were so thick they stuck to the windshield and our hair. I hear Roy Orbison singing, "Pretty Woman," on the car radio and Patty is rolling her "r's" just like Roy when he gets to that word, "mercy."

One evening Patty, Linda Schaitberger and I embarked on what felt like a long trip to Rochester. Patty had learned that the symphony was playing the work of Dimitri Shostakovich at Meadow Brook's outdoor theater. I had no idea of who this composer was, but Patty was animated, near-agitated at the prospect of hearing him. And, had I had her sophistication and knowledge about Shostakovich at that age, I'd like to think I would have shared the excitement. All the way to Rochester, she kept repeating his name, Shostakovich, Shostakovich, as if that complex, exotic mouthful of letters were a delicacy to savor, something to roll around in the mouth for a while. She perched herself on a lush, green hill, and as the musicians played, I remember her in profile, the cascade of black hair she'd let grow long, her blue eyes and that expression of rapt exaltation.

Patty and I began a long-email correspondence in 2020, and today I read several of our letters from 2022. We exchanged our poetry, thoughts about writing and recollections of our times together. She'd told me that what she really wanted as a young girl at Liggett was, above all else, to be good, and to please her parents.

The last time I was with Patty was in the late 1960's. She'd invited me to visit her in Oklahoma where she was living with her husband, Jeffrey Rubinoff, a sculptor. I think he was working on an MFA there. Much like the quality of late-afternoon light, my memory of that visit is a bit hazy and filtered, as were the rooms I remember in their modest craftsman-style bungalow. Jeffrey was welding in the backyard, Patty led me to a walnut? oak? credenza where she was growing a row of hyacinths in little terracotta pots.

They had just started to bloom and take on colors; she lifted one for me to smell. Hyacinths, Hyacinths, she repeated in a sing-song-ish refrain, awed by the miracle of what one can grow from a seed. Hyacinths. I imagine we ate a good, simple dinner, and I do remember dancing afterward: Patty, Jeffrey, me and an apple-cheeked boy who was either invited, or had just dropped in. The next day, I took a bus back to Missouri where I was living at the time.

Though with considerable reluctance, Patty pierced my ears in my bedroom with a sterilized darning needle. We sat on the roof of the co-ops and watched fireworks bursting over the Detroit River. Her recommendation for our senior class motto was Speak to the Earth and It Shall Teach Thee. Now I know that's from The Book of Job. It should have been chosen. After all, that's how she lived, and devoted her life. I loved her very much.

Douglas Campbell III '71



Douglas Campbell III Executive/CEO Coach, Entrepreneur, Professor, Author, National Speaker, Mentor

Doug Campbell III, age 72, passed away on Tuesday September 2nd, 2025 at his home in Stamford, CT with his wife and kids at his side, after a courageous four-year battle with ALS. He went peacefully thanks to an abundance of love and support from family and friends and because he was able to watch the University of Michigan football team win their first game of the season a few days prior.

Doug was born on March 6th, 1953, at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Raised in nearby Grosse Pointe Farms, he was the son of the late Douglas Campbell Jr. and the late Elizabeth MacColl Campbell. He attended the Grosse Pointe University School, and the Hotchkiss School ('71). A year later, on his first road trip to the west coast, an invite to a family wedding in Portland, OR proved very consequential, as it's where he met the love of his life, Gwynne (MacColl) Campbell.

Doug attended the University of New Hampshire, completing a BA in Spanish and International Relations (Class of 1975). After graduating from UNH, Doug joined one of his professors to co-author "Major Issues of the Law of the Sea," used widely as a textbook for decades by universities from Harvard to Johns Hopkins. Following this time, he completed an internship at the State Department, consulted at the United Nations in NYC, and worked with the US Congress Office of Technology Assessment in DC to implement and regulate the 200 mile fishing zone. Next he moved to Alexandria, VA where he started a weekly newspaper.

In 1978, Doug proposed to Gwynne in Cestre Levante, Italy and they married on Cape Cod a year later. Shortly after, the two moved to Charlottesville, VA, for Doug's enrollment at the University of Virginia's Darden School in 1980 to earn his MBA. Following graduation, they moved to Stamford, CT and Doug joined the corporate world at Champion International. The couple relocated to Darien in 1983, where they resided for the next 35 years, opening the first Sylvan Learning Center on the east coast, providing comprehensive after-school tutoring and test prep for students of all ages.

During this time, Doug developed a passion to help business leaders achieve strategic goals, think outside of the box, and have a good work-life balance. In 1995 Doug founded The Success Coach and for 30 years he coached CEOs and top executives and their teams to reach higher levels of success, tapping his skills in business and as a member of The National Speaker's Association. Always dedicated to coaching young people, in either sports or business, Doug taught MBA marketing and entrepreneurship for two decades at Sacred Heart and Fairfield University. In 2019, he helped launch and co-hosted the Stamford Ferguson Library's Entrepreneur-in-Residence Program, a free on-line and in-person coaching program for local entrepreneurs to improve their businesses and share their experiences with other innovators.

Doug served on many local and impactful boards, including the Darien Chamber of Commerce, Communities Health Charities, the Darien Men's Association, The Darien Land Trust, The Hotchkiss Alumni Board of Directors and CT's Angel Investment Forum. From 1998 to 2014, Doug ran monthly breakfast meetings for groups of "High Talent Creatives", usually featuring a pitch from an innovative, emerging local company that then garnered feedback from accomplished local businesspeople. Through his coaching, speaking, and many case studies and learnings, Doug was inspired to write and self-publish two business books: "Where To Go From Here: Reinventing your Business and Your Career;" and "The 16-28 Solution: Unleash the Passions of Your Youth."

But what made Doug most proud was the family he and Gwynne raised. His son Colin and wife Tara Craft (Arlington, VA) have two daughters, Alma and Chloe. His daughter Caroline and husband Robert Dickie (Melbourne, AUS) have two sons, Brooks and Miller. Colin works in sales and entrepreneurial brand building and Caroline works in leadership development and coaching, both occupations inspired by much of Doug's varied career. Doug is also survived by his two brothers, Dwight (La Canada, CA) and Duncan (Grosse Pointe, MI) and their families.

Doug was a longtime member of Noroton Presbyterian Church where he served on the Missions Board and co-founded a multi-denominational men's bible study group, now well into its 18th year. With the Fairfield Country Micro Investor's Council, Doug also helped establish micro lending initiatives in Ecuador and El Salvador, completing 16 trips to the countries to meet with and coach business owners, always using his Spanish as much as he could.

Doug also loved coaching his kids, Colin & Caroline, on their youth ice hockey and baseball/softball rec teams. A lifelong golfer, fisher, biker, ice skater, and swimmer, Doug loved his sports, incessantly rooting for University of Michigan, UVA, all four of Detroit's professional teams, and CT's beloved Whalers. Doug was always competitive with a good attitude, and also relished his billiards, backgammon, and yard games. On the links, Doug served for several years as the head coach of Wilton High School's golf team, winning the county championship and placing third in the state in his final year at the helm. An avid outdoorsman, Doug spent many summers camping and hiking alongside Lake Superior in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and continued to enjoy the outdoors and the beach at the shared family house in Matunuck, RI.

An avid & curious traveler, Doug studied in Madrid and lived in Caracas for three months in his youth and took the family on trips to Mexico & the Caribbean, Italy & France, England & Scotland, South Africa &

Botswana, Morocco & Spain, and more. In later years, he and Gwynne planned wonderful trips to other areas of Europe and visits to his kids living in Australia and the Middle East.

In early 2022, Doug was diagnosed with Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and vowed to fight the terminal illness with positivity, science, humor, and diligence, while staying active and inspirational in the business community and with his family and friends up until the very end. The incredible amount of support and consistent visits and calls by so many dear friends, especially when he was no longer able to leave the house or his wheelchair, meant the world to his family. Doug cherished his four grandchildren and loved playing tickle monster, chess, taboo, and watching them create art, build structures, meet animals at the Stamford Nature Center, and search for the golden egg at the family's annual Easter Egg Hunt.

With scores of Sylvan alumni, along with his many MBA students and entrepreneurial and business coaches still in the area, the Doug Campbell legacy of service, learning, community, and creativity will live on for many years.