



Lewis Tilden Steadman, Sr.

September 26, 1926 - March 26, 2017

Lewis Tilden Steadman, Sr., age 90, passed away peacefully at home in Lake Bluff, Illinois on March 26, 2017. He was surrounded by his loving children Carol, Lewis Jr. and his wife Holly, and Robert, and his adored grandchildren Scott (Katie) and Ben. Lew was eagerly anticipating the arrival of his first great-grandchild Liam Cunningham Steadman on April 13, 2017. He is also survived by his brothers Robert and Richard and his sister Calista and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. His brother James predeceased him. Lewis was the beloved husband for 64 years of the late Alma Bailey Steadman. He was born in Chicago and grew up in Marcellus, NY where he met Alma at Marcellus High School. After Lew survived a bout with polio, he and Alma were married upon graduation from Syracuse University in 1946. Lew worked as an Engineer at Ford Motor Company in Detroit and then received his J. D. Degree from George Washington University while working full time at the U.S. Patent Office. He then joined the intellectual property firm of Charles W. Hill (later Hill, Steadman & Simpson), becoming a Managing Partner. Lew worked for more than 50 years as a renowned patent expert, winning major litigation for his long-time clients in the U.S., Australia and Japan. Most recently he was of counsel at Rockey, Depke, Lyons & Kitzinger. Lew and Alma moved to Lake Bluff in 1953 where he served as Village Board President from 1971-79 and was a Board Member of the Zoning Board and the Armour Woods Association. Lew was a long-time member of the Union League and Metropolitan Clubs in Chicago and the Knollwood Club in Lake Forest. Lew and Alma loved to travel, taking their first "around the world" trip in the summer of 1962. They delighted in spending time with family in Hilton Head, S.C. and Puerto Rico. They also had a lifelong passion for collecting American antiques. Then in 1996, Lew purchased the house at 18 North Street in Marcellus, NY, where he had grown up and married Alma, as a 50th wedding anniversary present. Together they restored the house, originally built in 1836, and in 2006 they donated it to the Marcellus Historical Society for use as a museum. Lew's dry wit, his intellectual curiosity and his generosity in sharing his knowledge with those around him leaves a huge hole in our lives. Lew was devoted to his family and loved history, golf, sports cars, bourbon old-fashioneds, and traveling the world. He will be very much missed by all who knew him. The family also wishes to extend their profound gratitude to his devoted caregivers Pelagio Cantillas and

Orlando Castillo. The family service was private. Contributions in Lew's memory may be sent to the Marcellus Historical Society, P.O. Box 165, Marcellus, NY 13108. Info - Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest, (847) 234-9649 or RTFunerals.com.

Comments



“ Uncle Lew, no one told me.... Clearly we need better family communication! I'm sorry you didn't get to see Mercury 13! Uncle Bob was awesome, and, as is typical of Steadman women Aunt Bea was such an inspiration!

Shannon Steadman McLaughlin - September 01, 2018 at 10:52 AM



“ I met Lew and Alma through their son Bob about 10 years ago and was impressed from the beginning. What a friendly, interesting couple! Great to talk to over lobster dinner in Bethesda, or being guided around the huge exhibit hall for the Baltimore antique gun show. Not to mention their introducing me to Hilton Head! They made me feel like family, which I'm sure others would agree with. Lew led a long, fruitful life and is now once again with the love of his life. Bob Andrews, Chevy Chase, MD

Bob Andrews - May 05, 2017 at 07:37 AM



“ Lew it was just 60 years ago this year that we met and began a long working relation in our law firm. We toiled together in managing that firm and built a great relationship built on trust and mutual respect. We shared many a laugh too during our frequent lunches together and in our travels together to Japan. We will miss you and Alma both. God bless you and your memory. John Simpson

john - May 01, 2017 at 11:02 AM



“ Lew and Alma were large in my life and were so very helpful in my personal growth and professional development. I first got to meet Alma when the parents were away at Hilton Head and Bob naturally had a high school party. At the end of the evening we all "crashed" at Bob's and I got the designer couch. No one told me to dispose of my gum before calling it a night. Days later, when Lew and Alma returned from their vacation I had to introduce myself and apologize for ruining their furniture with gum stuck on the couch. I was terrified but Alma said it was no big deal (it was).

After that Bob, I and a small group of friends were very tight for the remainder of our lives and spent a lot of our formative years in the Steadman basement. It was the very best basement with the most accessories (pool, ping pong, beer pong, mini golf, bowling alley, beer, and much more).

After college, I, like Lew and Alma, wanted to travel the world. My goal was to be accepted as an officer and pilot in the U.S. Air Force. Mr. Steadman wrote the most amazing letter recommending me to the US Air Force. I was accepted and ended up traveling the world. To this day I know his awesome letter is what helped send me on my awesome life journey. Thank you Lew!!!

Ted Moorman - April 29, 2017 at 06:29 PM



“ Thank you also Alma

Ted Moorman - April 29, 2017 at 06:34 PM



“ I have known the Steadman family for close to 50 years. I have had the opportunity to spend time in two of their homes (Lake Bluff and Hilton Head-Sea Pines). Both homes were welcoming and comfortable.

I always looked forward to my conversations with Alma and Lew Sr. as I knew they would be engaging, positive, informative and genuine.

I wanted to keep funny separate from the other qualities because it was most important to me. They both had a fantastic sense of humor and great laughs! They very much enjoyed laughing and they were very good at it! They also passed this skill on to their children.

Lew and Alma were great people and role models. Engaging, intelligent, genuine, and a great sense of humor are the key ingredients to wonderful people who will be missed.

I am glad that I got to know them both.

Jaime McWeeny

Jaime McWeeny - May 01, 2017 at 07:16 AM