



## Frank Stewart Berall

March 31, 2022

Frank Stewart Berall, of Bloomfield, passed away Thursday, March 31, 2022. He was born February 10, 1929, in Manhattan, New York City. After graduating from Yale College in 1950, with a degree in Economics, he served as an army officer in the field artillery, as a forward observer and also gunnery instructor, for two years during the Korean War. Honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant in 1952, he returned to Yale Law School, graduating in 1955, was admitted to the New York Bar, and immediately started his legal career as an associate with the Wall Street law firm of Mudge, Stern, Baldwin & Todd, while earning a Masters of Law Degree in Taxation from New York University's School of Law (1959).

In 1960, with his young family, Frank moved to Connecticut where he built his beloved home of 55 years on Penwood Pond and joined the Legal Department of the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company (now CIGNA). Returning to private practice in 1968, he became a partner in a predecessor of Copp & Berall, LLP.

During the course of his career, he was one of the leaders of both the Connecticut and American Bar Associations, as well as the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. He was an Adjunct Instructor at the University of Connecticut's Law and Insurance Schools, and Adjunct Assistant Professor at

the University of Hartford's Graduate Tax Program and instructor in the American College (of Life Insurance).

He had a lifelong passion for stamp-collecting, which led early to a deep interest in geography and history, also generating a fascination with trains. In over 40 years of marriage, he and his wife often put their "boots on the ground," traveling across the world numerous times, by air, sea, road, camel and rail, visiting every continent and nearly every country on the globe.

He served as Vice President of the Culver Summer Schools' Alumni Association, and also as a Trustee of the Culver Education Foundation in Indiana. In 1983 he founded Culver's marching unit of returning Alumni, a great source of pride for him, which continues to this day.

Continuing Education was always important to Frank, both as a lecturer and instructor, as well as student. He was working on his PH.D. degree in Law from Leiden University in the Netherlands, right up until his death.

As his health declined he retired from the practice of law and moved into assisted living at Duncaster, where he was extremely well cared for by their very patient, compassionate, and attentive staff. The family's gratitude for their care of him is beyond words.

He was a member of the Hartford Golf Club, the New York City Yale Club, The Hartford Club and the Yale Club of Hartford.

Besides his wife, Jenefer Carey Berall, he leaves a son, Erik D. Berall of Hilo, Hawaii, a daughter, Elissa A. Berall and grandson, Liam A. Berall-Gaard, both of Oakland, California. He was predeceased by his parents, Louis J. and Jeannette F. Berall, and his first wife, Christiana Johnson.

Friends may call on Thursday, April 7, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. His funeral service will be held Friday, April 8 at 10:00 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 679 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, 200 Whitman Ave., West Hartford. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Duncaster, 80 Loeffler Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002 or the ALZ Association of CT, 200 Executive Blvd., Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489, or a charity of your choice. For online condolences please visit [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com)

stream service here <https://youtu.be/aTxDP4th7Mk>

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

200 Whitman Ave.  
West Hartford, CT

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

APR 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Funeral Service

APR 8. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church  
679 Farmington Ave  
West Hartford, CT

# Tribute Wall



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Frank Stewart Berall*



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**Molloy Funeral Home** - April 07, 2022 at 02:42 PM

PJ

“ *Dear Jenefer: I was saddened to see Frank's obituary in the paper. I brought back wonderful memories of his and your generosity and warm support for Catholic Charities when I was the CEO there over 20 years ago. I can still see you bidding on auction items well in excess of their value simply to increase the support for the event and the mission of the agency. A few times when we saw each other in recent years you mentioned Frank's declining health and his slow deterioration. Having been through this with my mom I have some sense of what you both have been through. I always enjoyed your stories of your exciting travels together. What wonderful memories to cherish! May you find peace in your heart, joy in your fond memories, and comfort among family and friends during this time of great loss. God bless!! Patrick Johnson*

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**Patrick Johnson** - April 13, 2022 at 11:15 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Frank Stewart Berall.



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April 07, 2022 at 06:28 AM



“ Mr. Berall was first described to me as "The Guru" of his field, someone from whom you could learn much. I also learned he was loyal, honest and kind and that he valued competency and hard work in both himself and others. He showed his appreciation to us in so many ways, inspiring our loyalty to him as well. I will always be grateful for the opportunity to work from home as I raised my children and will remember the Hartford Club dinners with Jenefer, my husband and me after a long night working to meet a filing deadline. He was one of a kind and I am forever grateful to have known him.

Shirley Hale

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Shirley Hale - April 06, 2022 at 12:48 PM



“ My first day of work at Copp & Berall was "Tax Day" 1990. Mr. Berall came into my life that day and has remained there ever since. All of us that worked with him have our own stories, but they have a common theme—we were a family. I believe that is something quite rare in the business world. He was more than my "boss," he was my teacher and someone on whom I could always depend for support and advice. His devotion to his employees and to Copp & Berall was unwavering, as was his loyalty and generosity to me. I will miss you...

Joyce Davis

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Joyce Davis - April 06, 2022 at 12:42 PM

BD

“ Found another good one, surrounded by his favorite books.



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**Brenda Day** - April 05, 2022 at 10:52 AM

AN

“ Mr. Berall was very nice person and generous to all. I worked directly for him for four years. This law firm was definitely family oriented which is not seen too often in today's environment. The memories of our Friday morning's breakfast and we never missed a birthday celebration in the conference room will be memories that we will all take with us as we remember Mr. Berall. He had so many great stories. My heart goes out to Jenefer, Erik and Elissa and may the memories keep forever in your heart. The memories is what is going to help you through this time.

*Andrea Oppenheimer*

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**andrea** - April 05, 2022 at 08:40 AM

BD

“ *What great memories we will have forever working at the law firm of Copp & Berall, we were truly like family, no doubt! I remember when we sat around the conference room table and shared a Thanksgiving lunch together! Thanks for all the wonderful memories Mr. Berall you were truly a wonderful boss and a very thoughtful, caring man. We will all miss you. Brenda Day*



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**Brenda Day** - April 05, 2022 at 12:14 AM

SC

“ *35 years later and I still tell stories of how wonderful it was working for Mr. Berall. For 16 years we were all family at Copp and Berall. It was without a doubt the best job I ever had or ever will have. I was lucky enough to have the pleasure of working together another 17 years at different firm too. He was just the most sincere, generous man. I'll never forget his stories during our birthday celebrations. I am forever grateful for the day he hired me, which ended up giving me the most memorable experiences I've ever had working with THE BEST people I've ever known. Rest In Peace Mr. Berall. Love, Sherry Cornelio*

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**Sherry Cornelio** - April 04, 2022 at 09:35 PM

RA

*It was in 1980 that I joined the New London office of Copp, Koletsky and Berall. Almost immediately I was introduced to Frank who worked out of the Hartford office, and I immediately recognized his amazing talents as a tax lawyer and gentleman. As a young attorney, he always took time to explain to me a particular file and how I could assist him in representing the client's needs that went beyond his own tax planning and estate expertise. I am forever grateful for his kind assistance in those early days of law practice and honored to have known and respected him for many years thereafter in the practice of law.*

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**Robert Avena** - April 06, 2022 at 02:57 PM

NR

*“ Frank was the most wonderful boss and mentor any person could ever be lucky enough to have. He was loved by his entire staff which became a true family for well over 10 years. He will be sorely missed.*

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**Nancy Roskin** - April 04, 2022 at 07:57 PM