



Frank Finley Jr.

October 9, 1922 - March 26, 2015

Dr. Francis (Frank) Leo Finley, Jr., beloved husband of the late Virginia Dunne Finley of Old Lyme and West Hartford, died on March 26th surrounded by the people he loved. He was 92 years old. Dr. Finley ran a dental practice in West Hartford for 55 years before retiring to Old Lyme. He was a past President of the New England Dental Society, a member of the Hartford Dental Society and the Ct State Dental Association. Francis served as a medical officer on submarines in the Navy during World War II. An ardent conservationist, Dr. Finley received numerous awards for his distinguished work with the Nature Conservancy. He was also a local historian of great note and was quoted in books, newspapers and magazines. Frank enjoyed those friendships made at Hartford Golf Club, Old Lyme Country Club, and The Old Guard. Frank Finley was born on October 9, 1922 to Helen Brady Finley and Dr. Francis L Finley, Sr. He was the eldest of five siblings - James, Jean, Jack and Ann Louise, all of whom predeceased him. The Finleys were one of the founding families of the beach community Old Lyme Shores, a favorite oasis where Frank summered throughout his life. After attending Hall High, Frank followed in his father's footsteps, graduating from Georgetown Dental School. He began his career alongside his father in Hartford before forming his own practice. Dr. Finley's love for his work and patients inspired many a young person to take up the profession. While in the service, Frank met Virginia Dunne, a beautiful young woman who remembered seeing him strolling in his Navy whites eating an ice cream cone. When he asked her to marry him, she said "Maybe,

sometime.” That time came in 1951. They were married and had two children, Francis Leo Finley III and Liza Finley. Virginia passed away in 1988. Francis is survived by his son Lee and daughter-in-law Cindi, daughter Liza and son-in-law Brian Young, his grandson Brian Corrigan and wife Alison, his other grandson, Doug Corrigan, granddaughter Anna Young and two great-grandchildren. He leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews and cousins as well as special friend Cynthia Rowley. When last asked how he wanted to be remembered, Frank answered “that he loved life.” Everyone who met this hilarious, cheerful, caring man loved him in return. Funeral services will be Wednesday, April 1, with the Celebration of a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. in Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, 1 McCurdy Rd. Old Lyme. Burial will be private in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Old Lyme Land Trust, P.O. Box 163 Old Lyme CT 06371 <http://oldlymelandtrust.org/>.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery West Hartford

200 Whitman Ave.
West Hartford, CT

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

APR 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ the King
1 McCurdy Rd.
Old Lyme, CT 06371
<http://www.christthekingchurch.net/>

Tribute Wall

ES

“ *How fortunate I am to have such wonderful memories of happy times, shared laughter, and great Thanksgiving dinners with Dr. Finley and his gracious family who made me feel at home with them and truly welcomed.*

Thank you, Liza for including me in those special times I shall always treasure.



Elna Seabrooks - April 06, 2015 at 11:51 AM

AE

“ *I am so saddened to learn of Frank's passing (and sorry I didnt hear in time to attend the funeral for him). I met Frank while waiting in the ticket lune for the BI Ferry. He was carrying an old canvas boat bag full of firewood, which I thought looked a bit heavy. We got talking and learned we were neighbors (country neighbors, that is 'within a mile of each other). We ended up spending a bit of time together on the Island rattling around in Cynthia's (Rowley) van. Frank was the kindest gentleman -even when faced with people who weren't so kind. He always had a smile and a friendly wave when I'd pass him around town, usually with his beloved dog riding along. I almost called him last week as we had promised to get together' when the snow melts'. He will be missed.*

My condolences to his children and extended family.

Ariana vdH Eaton - April 03, 2015 at 12:30 PM

HE

“ Our most sincere condolences to the entire Finley family. I can still remember Mom bringing us 5 kids to Dr. Finley's office for our checkups. What a wonderful gentleman. I am so glad that I got a chance to say hello to Dr. Finley last year at OLS. We will all miss him.

Harold A. Even and Family

Harold A. Even - March 29, 2015 at 05:21 PM

JL

Happiness for a life well lived, condolences to the many who loved him. I fondly recall Frank (and Ginny) as wonderful guests at my parents parties through the years. So glad he was one of my parents longtime close friends. I remember Frank always happy and smiling. Rest in peace.

John Lennhoff - March 31, 2015 at 09:07 PM