



Richard H. Cave

February 5, 2021

Richard H. Cave, 90, of West Hartford, Connecticut passed away peacefully on February 5, 2021 in Hartford, Connecticut. Dick embodied the “greatest generation.” He gave to others selflessly, with never a care of himself. His spirit of generosity and kindness made everyone around him better. His family gave him his greatest joy. Even as the family spread across the country Dick made sure that he never missed a birthday or big event. Everyone looked forward to hearing from Grandpa Dick.

Predeceased by his father Victor Henry Cave, his mother Deborah Shaffer Cave, and his wife Roxane Cook Cave, Dick is survived by his children Debby (Jim) Higgins, Rick (Kathy) Cave, and Alan (Ann) Cave; a sister Ann (David) Gallop and a brother Robert (Jane) Cave; his best friend and loving partner Anne Marie Kinsella; his grandchildren Matt (Christine) Higgins, Kevin Higgins, Sean Higgins, Robert Cave, Kelly Cave, Austin Cave and Madison Cave; and his great grandchildren Sarah Higgins, Elizabeth Higgins, and Catherine Higgins.

Dick was born in Springfield, MA on July 18, 1930. His family moved to West Hartford when Dick was a child, and he remained in West Hartford for most of his life. After graduating from Williams College he was hired by CIGNA and

assigned to the Controller's Department. After a career that lasted 41 years he retired as the Assistant Vice President of Individual Financial Services in 1993. In 1950 Dick enlisted in the Army Reserves that ended with his retirement in 1990 as a Lieutenant Colonel. During this time he also served his community as a member of the school board, justice of the peace, and selectman.

Fifty years with the Boys Scouts of America began with his participation in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, where he obtained the rank of Eagle Scout. As an adult he continued his involvement in scouting as a Webelos Leader, Cubmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Neighborhood Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioner and District Commissioner. In 1975 Dick was awarded the Silver Beaver, the highest achievement given to scouting volunteers. This award is given to those who implement the scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service.

At an early age Dick started his life-long interest in sports. High school football, high school and college lacrosse, golf, and squash were just a few of the sports he enjoyed competing in. His love of sports lasted throughout his life as he was able to fit in a round of golf just a few weeks ago. As a father Dick's involvement in sports grew to include coach, mentor, and leader. He started off as an assistant coach for his son's youth baseball team and eventually took over the role as manager. Dick moved on to become president of the youth baseball league and then president and founding member of the West Hartford All Sports Council in 1985. He continued as president until 1996 but remained on the council as treasurer. When Dick took over as president of the All Sports Council, there were three leagues: football, baseball, and basketball, that supported around 1,000 participants. During his tenure the

council added girls softball and basketball leagues, lobbied successfully for the town to provide liability insurance for volunteers and started a drug abuse prevention program called "Exercise the Right Choice", and established a youth minor league in order to "give every kid that wanted to play baseball a chance." The number of participants involved in council activities grew to over 4,000. An enduring legacy to a lifetime spent in service.

After his retirement from CIGNA Dick started a new career when he joined the Hartford Foundation of Public Giving as a volunteer. For the next 20 years you could find Dick working in the foundation almost everyday. Although he certainly took advantage of his volunteer status to make sure he was able to play golf 2 or 3 times a week at the Hartford Golf Club. When he arrived at the foundation, Dick started working with the scholarship program. Under his leadership the program grew substantially which required additional staff and bringing in someone with experience working with scholarships to run the program full time. Dick transitioned from scholarships to the Nonprofit Loan Fund and then to a new division, the Nonprofit Support Group. In joining the group, Dick doubled the size of the staff. He remained with the group for 14 years and shifted the focus to helping greater Hartford nonprofits modernize and improve their technology. During this time the group gave away over \$10 million in grants as well as providing advice, technical support, grant application support, and resolving numerous problems. The Nonprofit Support Program grew substantially and now is a major piece of the Hartford Foundation.

Recently Dick was recognized for his many years of service when he was selected as a member of the 2018 Class of 60 over 60. The award recognizes 60 Connecticut individuals who are 60-years-old or older and make a

difference “with their businesses; in their communities and for their families.”

Funeral Services will be private on Saturday, February 20, at 1 pm, they can be viewed at the following stream <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/32847693> . Friends and family are invited to the committal at 2:30 p.m. at Fairview Cemetery, 200 Whitman Ave. West Hartford on the same day (to reach grave location look for sign that says Molloy and follow the numbered arrows that match). Molloy Funeral Home, West Hartford has care of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Dick Cave Fund at the Hartford Foundation of Public Giving (HFPG.org/DickCaveFund). The fund has been established in Dick’s name to support youth sports as well as those less fortunate.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB **20**. 2:30 PM (ET)

Fairview Cemetery
200 Whitman Ave.
West Hartford, CT

Tribute Wall



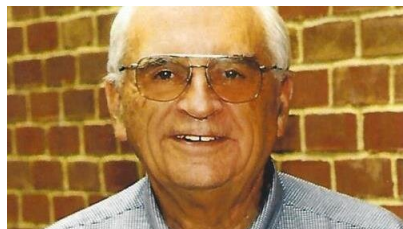
“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard H. Cave*



Molloy Funeral Home - February 18, 2021 at 07:49 AM



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Richard H. Cave*



Molloy Funeral Home - February 12, 2021 at 02:33 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to the Cave family. I had the great pleasure of working with Dick at the Hartford Foundation. Smart, patient, and kind, he was a valued, trusted colleague.*

Jane Lennox

Jane Lennox - February 18, 2021 at 05:56 PM

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“ *My condolences to the Cave family. As the President of the All-Sports Council I was able to spend many enjoyable and memorable meetings with Dick. Dick was our financial guru. Through his leadership and guidance the youth of West Hartford had the opportunity of experience the joys of athletic competition and friendship.*

One of most lasting memories was opportunity to play golf with Dick at Hartford Golf Club, with Jim Capodiece and Jim Procicini.

Thank you Dick. My life is fuller for having spent part of it with you.

Tom Carson

Tom Carson - February 17, 2021 at 11:52 AM



“ Grandpa Dick, we miss you so much. I pray your soul departed this world with no pain, and I am confident you entered Heaven and are reunited with Grandma Rocky.

Your loss was sudden and unexpected, but I find comfort that you were at peace and got to be with my mom and her brothers before you passed. My earliest memory is when you visited our home in Minnesota on 259 Hollander Ave, when I manage to get my pedal tractor to the bottom of the driveway (a big hill for a 4 yr old.) Instead of relenting to my incessant whining to pick up my John Deere tractor and drag it to the top, you quietly suggested I zig zag my way to the top, which I reluctantly did. Your firm direction pushed me to achieve my goal (big win for 4yr old Matt.) I've tried to weave your lessons of self resilience and reliability into my life as I've grown, and someday, in the far future I hope to live up to your legacy and be 1/10th of the man you were.

I thank you for the always insightful conversations, and the guidance and wisdom you provided. I'll never forget our mutual disdain of Fort Polk, Louisiana, and "all those dang snakes." You were one of the few family members that "got it" when I told you about my new job... as if you were one of the logistician chiefs I'd have to deal with. I only wish I could have picked your brain and gotten some good old war stories about your time in the Army (Retired Lieutenant Colonel folks and a subtle brag but also a rank/goal to match.) I need to go thru the Army insignia/pins you gave me, but I *THINK* you gave me some Major rank (ya, I'm shocked too) that I'll have to put on my uniform. If I'm lucky enough to be promoted to LTC, your rank will be on my shoulder, sir. The girls and I will miss the Christmas parties in West Hartford, but rest assured your great-grandkids will know of your legacy and care for fellow man.

Thank you for being at my Army Commissioning. Thank you for being at my Eagle Court of Honor. Thank you for being a great leader, and a great grandfather and great great-grandfather. While the world may be darker now, we can bask in the light of your memory.

I'll see you at Fiddler's Green. First drink's on me!



Matt Higgins - February 12, 2021 at 11:56 PM