



## William J. Callahan

December 1, 2020

William J. Callahan, age 93, of West Hartford, formerly of Bloomfield, died peacefully in his apartment with long time nurse Judith at his side.

William was a loving father to Lauri Graziano and her husband Alex of Caldwell, NJ, and of Bill Callahan and his wife Carol of Billings, MT; adored grandparent of Thomas, JP, BJ and Duncan. Born in Lawrence MA, graduated Lawrence HS and served in the Navy during WWII. Following his service, he graduated from MIT and married Millicent Jarvis of Cape Cod, whom predeceased him in 2016. He was CEO and metallurgist of Philbrick, Booth & Spencer, in Hartford. He loved his family, skiing, golfing at Wampanoag CC, traveling, playing the drums and listening to Jazz. He will be greatly missed. A graveside service was held at St. Bernard's cemetery, Tariffville. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Hartford Jazz Society or St. Jude's Hospital.

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ Lauri and Bill,

*I just learned sadly of the passing of your Dad.*

*Your Dad had a larger impact on me than you or he may have realized. He took me to several jazz concerts with your Mom and Lauri, and introduced me to the world of big band jazz and band leaders such as Stan Kenton, Woody Herman, and Maynard Ferguson, and I still remember how excited he was when we all heard drummer Peter Erskine for the first time. Your Dad kindled in me a love for big band jazz that remains with me to this day, and I am involved in several local jazz organizations as result, including as a board member and management participant in a local professional big band.*

*May your Dad's memory be a blessing to you and your families.*

*John Lieberman*

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**John Lieberman** - December 28, 2020 at 01:53 PM

DA

“ *Bill and Lauri:*

*You will not remember me and you may not be aware of how your Dad had a big impact on our family.*

*It began about sixty-five years ago. Bill was a mentor, the guardian angel, to my father, Robert "Bud" Arn. He was responsible for hiring my father, causing a move from Ohio to Branford, Connecticut where we rented the first floor of a Victorian house on Kirkham Street and your parents, Bill and Millie, lived on the second. I will attest to the fact he was a drummer and occasionally the sound of his drumming, the rattle of the snare drum, would come down through the floorboards. I will also attest to the fact that your mother was especially nice, kind eyes, big smile and the softest Massachusetts accent. Your Mom and Dad were the best neighbors you could have.*

*That move changed the course of my life and of my siblings. We all texted each other about it on the day we read the obituary. We often wonder how things would have been different had we never come east. When your Dad was at Philbrick, Booth and Spencer, he got in touch with my Dad. Soon our family was moving to Connecticut, everyone secure in the knowledge Bill was trustworthy and when you followed his lead things worked out.*

*Your father was one-of-a-kind: upbeat, proactive, a good Christian who seemed to have all the social graces.*

*David Arn*

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David Arn - December 17, 2020 at 02:29 PM

BC

“ *Lori and Bill.*

*Sorry to learn of your dad's passing. He was my mentor at PB&S for 26 years. I credit a great deal of my successful Foundry career to him. Bob Cheskey*

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**Bob Cheskey** - December 07, 2020 at 02:49 PM

DZ

“ *Bill & Lauri, I am so very sorry for the loss of your Dad. I have such fond memories of both of your parents. But now he is reunited with your Mom, and with my parents, as well - they're having a great time up there all together! May the wonderful memories you have help you through this difficult time.*

*With sincerest sympathies,*

*Debbie Cacella Zahorodni* ❤️

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**Debbie Cacella Zahorodni** - December 05, 2020 at 06:53 AM