

## WILLIAM ROBERT CAGNEY, PhD



With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of William Robert Cagney, a loving family man and a compassionate and accomplished psychologist, who departed this world on October 29, 2023, at the age of 86. He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Pearl (Sebastian) Cagney, and his siblings, Edward, Mary Ellen, and Robert Cagney.

Dr. Cagney's life was marked by an unwavering commitment to learning and personal growth. A hometown boy from Dormont, he went on to earn his Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology degrees from Duquesne University in 1960, 1965, and 1968 respectively.

Dr. Cagney was a visionary in promoting mental health awareness within the community. He played pivotal roles as the founding psychologist at the South Hills Child Guidance Center, as a consultant who laid the groundwork for Outreach South in Mount Lebanon during informal kitchen table discussions, and as a founding consultant to South Hills Interfaith Ministries in Bethel Park. These are just a few highlights from his early career, which set the stage for his lifelong dedication to helping individuals throughout his extensive five-decade career as a clinical psychologist in private practice.

Outside of his professional endeavors, Dr. Cagney embraced diverse interests, including travel, art, jazz, and film. His zest for life was infectious, and he inspired those around him to find joy in every moment.

Dr. Cagney leaves behind a legacy of love and compassion. His illustrious career and diverse interests were unparalleled to his love for his time spent with his devoted wife of 58 years, Vivian Tartaglia Cagney, and their beloved daughters Lori Cagney, Julie Perricelli (Brett), and Melissa Schaffer (Stephen). Enduring memories were made during favorite trips to Stone Harbor, Hilton Head, New York City, and Italy. He continued sharing his love of family time and travel with his cherished grandchildren Cagney, Cullen, and Ian Bowen, Sophia Perricelli, and Lena and Ava Schaffer. His children and grandchildren brought out his playful and joyful personality. Dr. Cagney was a quiet, sweet, and gentle man who will continue to live this way in our hearts.

A celebration of William Robert Cagney's life will be held on Friday, November 3, 2023, from 2:00 to 6:00 PM and Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, at which time a Blessing Service will be held at the **WARCHOL FUNERAL HOME**, 3060 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA, 412-221-3333. Dr. Cagney's memory will forever live in our hearts, and his compassionate spirit will continue to guide us on our journey. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Alzheimer's Association by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/williamcagneydonation> or call 800-272-3900 for assistance.

Send condolences [post-gazette.com/gb](https://post-gazette.com/gb)