

THEOLOGUS "TED" KYRIAZI



Age 97, passed away peacefully November 27, 2023, while on home hospice care. Ted is survived by his two sons, Nick and Harold, sister Mary (Nick) Sezenias, sister-in-law Fannie (Chris) Kyriazi, and many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Betty (Zondos), parents Nicholas and Evangelia (Zachariou), step-mothers Olympia and Andromache, brothers Chris and Ernie, and sisters-in-law

Helen (Ernie) Kyriazi and Sonia and Angela ("Toolie") Zondos. Ted was born June 24, 1926, in Trafford, PA and raised in East Pittsburgh by his Greek immigrant parents. His birth mother died of congestive heart failure when he was two, and his step-mother died of cancer when he was 15, whereupon many of the duties of caring for his three younger (half-)siblings fell to him. Shortly after graduating from East Pittsburgh High School, he was drafted and fought in Patton's army as an infantryman during the final year of WWII. After a brief stint as a bartender, Ted took advantage of the G.I. Bill to get a degree in industrial engineering from Duquesne University, started a lifelong career in management at the Westinghouse Electric Corporation (for which his dad had worked as a "chipper" in their Trafford iron foundry), met his future wife Betty at a dance, got married in 1951 and entered the Korean conflict as a 2nd Lieutenant in the artillery. He and Betty lived in Ambridge with Betty's parents before and after his time in Korea, during which time both boys were born. Ted's career at Westinghouse soon allowed them to buy a home in Irwin in 1955, where they stayed until a promotion move in 1963 to Bloomington, IN. Another promotion move to Baltimore, MD followed in 1966, and then another, back to Irwin in 1968. 1971 saw the family move again, to Winston-Salem, NC, and 2-plus years later yet again to Jacksonville, FL, where Ted worked on the construction of offshore, floating nuclear power plants. A final move occurred in 1975, back to the Pittsburgh area, where Ted became an international traveler, scheduling the construction of nuclear power plants in Pusan, South Korea, and later consulting on other projects throughout the world (Brazil, Puerto Rico, Ireland, Germany, Australia, Singapore, and various cities in the U.K.). During this time Ted and Betty were always active in their local Greek Orthodox church communities, with both serious activities (teaching Sunday School, being a church board member, going to Bible study, helping with the food festivals, Betty singing in the choir) and fun ones (bowling league, golf outings, Greek dinner dances). The frequent moves had a profound effect on the boys, as they weren't able to develop lifelong friendships with peers, but instead became largely self-reliant, much like their mother's two never-married sisters, who were always a very close part of the family along with their father Nick Zondos. (One survivor of the ravages of the frequent moves was the family's lifelong friendship with the Skinner family in Irwin: Gene, Eleanor, Dee and Carol.) Getting together regularly with his brothers and sister and their families was also an integral part of Ted's family life. Extracurricular activities included being a mentor in Junior Achievement and helping his sister-in-law Angela with her various teaching endeavors in Special Olympics. He used his professional expertise to help the church achieve its stewardship goals, both locally and nationally. Upon retiring, Ted and Betty made several trips to the Holy Land with their church community, enjoyed summer vacations at Toolie's condo in North Topsail Beach, NC, and once did a month-long road trip around the U.S. Ted inherited his love for the Orthodox Church and its music directly from his father, who knew the liturgy so well that he would scold the priest if he said something wrong! Ted took up Byzantine chanting after retirement, and was for several years a fixture in the Sunday morning Orthros service, where people appreciated his heart if not his voice. He fought a slowly losing battle with dementia/memory loss in his final decade and spent 2016-2020 at Schenley Gardens Senior Living in Oakland (with Betty until her death in 2017) until COVID-19 restrictions prompted Harold to buy a condo at Neville House in Oakland and to move into it with him as his live-in caregiver. Ted will be remembered by his family for being a loving father and uncle, a gentle human being, lover of life, good provider, excellent bowler, and reliable golfing buddy. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made either to the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church of Mt. Lebanon, or to one's own parish in his memory. Funeral arrangements by BEINHAUERS. Family and friends welcome at 2630 West Liberty Ave, Dormont, 412 531-4000. Friday 4-8 p.m. Trisagion Service 7:00 p.m. Additional visitation Saturday 10:00 a.m. until time at funeral service at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228. Entombment Mt. Lebanon Cemetery. Please view or add tributes at www.beinhauercare.com.

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