

JOHN "JACK" FRANK BENSON



Age 86, of Pittsburgh, PA and New Bern, NC passed away on January 30 after a brief illness.

Jack is survived by his wife Joanne and three children from his first marriage, Audrey Smith (Dana), Julie Rakes (Mark) and Scott Benson as well as three stepchildren; Amy Shay (Todd), Patty Spencer (Chris) and Holly Plagman Robinson. He is survived by his sisters

Marjorie Benson and Barbara Hartman. Jack also is survived by his grandchildren, Trent Smith (Elysia), Lucy Rhodes (Ben), Ramsay Smith, Logan Rakes, Anna Rakes, Brandon Shay (Jennifer), Alexa Hoellerman (Cody), Olivia Shay, Ella Capri Spencer, his many great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents John (Jack) Charles Benson and Elizabeth (Betty) Benson and his brother George Goodwin Benson.

We hold dear our memories of Jack and his love of his family. We remember endless summers at Conneaut Lake, countless rounds of golf with his father and brother, his lifelong interest in real estate and his touching love for his dogs.

Never one to brag, Jack's kind heart belied the spirit of a true competitor. In a golf career that spanned decades Jack was the 1958 West Pen Four Ball Champion with his father, WPGA Father/Son Champion twice with his father and the Valley Brook Country Club Champion seven times between 1968 and 1996, and the Senior Champion four times between 1997 and 2002. Jack was a 1959 graduate of Duke University where he was a member of the Duke University Golf Team, the Student Body President and a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity.

Jack was a leader in business in the South Hills of Pittsburgh. During his career he grew his grandfather's real estate business, H.G. Benson & Sons into the top real estate firm in the region.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held at Valley Brook Country Club on Tuesday, February 20 from 2-4 PM. The family invites you to join them in remembering the life of their husband, brother, father, uncle, grandpa/pop pop and great-grandpa.

Donations can be made to New Bern Fire-Rescue or First Tee-Pittsburgh.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb