

DAVID H. COTTON, SR.



Dave Cotton, Sr., age 91, of Sewickley, PA, passed away peacefully at home on February 19th, 2024, surrounded by loving family. Born in Glen Dale, West Virginia on April 10th, 1932, Dave was the youngest of five siblings. Soon after graduating high school in 1951, Dave enlisted in the Navy and spent the next three years serving his country in the Korean conflict aboard the USS Hailey

(DD-556). His stories of wartime adventures, especially those of daring rescues of downed U.S. pilots and his time stationed in Turkey were cherished memories. Upon return, he married Jane (Peters) Cotton, started work at Bayer Corporation (later Mobay), and settled in the Pittsburgh area, moving his family to Sewickley in 1967 to raise four children.

In his 40 years at Bayer, Dave was a trusted site installation partner, often requested by clients who could count on him to get the job done right. In 1972, he volunteered to help with disaster relief for the multitude of people displaced after the devastating earthquake in Nicaragua. For several months, he and coworkers from Germany used their expertise with Bayer's insulation foam technology to build hundreds of "igloo" shelters for victims of the earthquake. After retirement, he joined the Sewickley Senior Men's Club and spent many years as an active volunteer for their numerous community and charity endeavors.

Remembered as a man who cared deeply about family and friends, Dave was well-loved by many and known to be a kind, caring, and empathetic person. Possessing a near-perfect memory for people and events, Dave entertained us all with endless stories about his childhood, his world travels in the Navy, and his adventures with golfing buddies, a sport that he loved and played on many legendary courses, including St. Andrews. He was also a passionate West Virginia Mountaineers football and basketball fan who rarely missed a game.

Dave was survived by those he loved dearly, his wife Jane; his two sons, Dave Cotton Jr. and Richard Brent Cotton; his two daughters, Kelly Clay-Slack and Lesley Clarke; and three grandchildren, Heather Clay, Christopher Clarke, and Selena Slack.

Friends will be received on Saturday, February 24th from 12 - 4 p.m. at **SHELLHAAS FUNERAL HOME**, 1600 Stone Mansion Drive, Sewickley, PA. 15143, concluding with a full military salute. A private interment will be held at the VA National Cemetery of the Alleghenies in Cecil, PA.

Please offer condolences at www.schellhaasfh.com.

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