GEORGE E. OLSON

George E. Olson passed away from COVID induced pneumonia on August 23, 2024 at the age of 81. Born on August 8, 1943, in Homestead, PA, George was the son of the late Gordon and Fannie (Belcher) Olson. On November 21, 1964 he married fellow Penn State student Jonelynn (Jonni) Griel. They had three children and resided in State College, PA.

George graduated from Munhall High in 1961 and then went on to earn a BS and an MBA in Finance/Accounting from Penn State. Throughout his career at Penn state, he worked in various financial roles including Payroll Management and Research Management. He retired from the position of Financial and Administrative Services Coordinator in the Controller's office.

Since 1973, George has been a part of the Elks in many capacities including Exalted Ruler, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, President, Treasurer, State Secretary, State VP, and State President. Many overlapped with his 29- year role as lodge secretary. He and his wife loved PSU and Pittsburgh football and hockey. George was often seen walking his beloved dogs - they had many over the years. The family loved spending summers at their lake home in Empire, Michigan which had been in the family since George's parents summered there.

George is survived by two daughters, Wendy Olson Walker (David) of Medina, OH and Kirsten Olson Leitzinger (Butch) of State College, PA; and four grandchildren, Eirik Olson of Medina, OH; Alexandra Olson of Cleveland OH; Annamae (Maezy) Leitzinger of State College; and Henry Leitzinger of State College. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, son (Christian), four siblings: Bob, Sally (Bungert), Bill and Chuck, and son-in-law David Walker. Memorial contributions may be given in George's memory to the State College Elks Local Charities Fund c/o The State College Elks Lodge #1600 PO Box 8, Boalsburg, PA 16827. Friends and family will be received from 1 – 4pm on Sunday, September 8, 2024 Koch Funeral Home, 2401 S. Atherton St, State College.

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