

## DODGE JR. ANTHONY J.

Anthony Joseph Dodge Jr (Tony) passed away Sunday, December 15, 2024, at home.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Pamela Downey Dodge.

Tony was born on November 21, 1942 in Milford, CT to the late Anthony and Nell Ann Dodge. He was also preceded in death by his brother, Thomas Dodge.

Tony graduated from Milford High School, Milford, CT where he excelled on the golf team with multiple tournament wins. A golf trophy on display at the Milford Parsons Government Center features his winning abilities. Tony's father was the club pro at Grassy Hill Country Club, Milford, CT; his mother cooked for the golf guests. At the age of 12, caddying and golfing shaped his years to come.

A degree in Marketing from University of Bridgeport (CT) and a night job at Carpenter Steel also in Bridgeport secured a position in marketing in base metals and alloys with Union Carbide, New York City, NY. Corporate life and transfers moved the family to New Jersey, Alabama, Chicago, Detroit and Pittsburgh. His work life was difficult requiring that he play golf, host dinners, and meet customers throughout the US, Norway, Europe, and Poland. He was agreeably supportive and took over extra parenting duties when Pam went back to college part-time for 14 years to complete three degrees in nursing.

Who was Tony? The eldest of 6, a quiet child and teen, a man who lived a unique life with a dry, wry humor that caught listeners by surprise. From family and friends, "he was always spontaneously funny when least expected," "funniest man I ever met," and "

one of a kind." He loved being active in roller blading, roller skiing, hiking, biking, cross country and downhill skiing, tennis, racquetball, kayaking, running, and jogging. Tony met the challenge of Nordic skiing by participating several times in the North American Vasa, 30km races in Traverse City, MI. Quite a frozen sight crossing the finish line. He loved his sons and the time he spent with them visiting, traveling, golfing, and laughing.

Retirement at 56 was a priceless gift with part-time work as an apple picker, YMCA exercise equipment coach, towel washer and folder, mall-based golf shop worker, stained glass creator, and more time for golf. Pam worked ten more years and often asked, "What is wrong with this picture?"

The well-known area of Pinehurst became the destination for the next chapter in his golf obsession. He lived in Whispering Pines for just shy of 15 years. Perfection was joining Pine Needles, Mid-Pines, and CC Whispering Pines along with the golf cart to transport him to the next round. New friends became old friends with family and visitors gladly arriving to enjoy the area. His brothers, Rich and Joe moved to the area to join the golf paradise.

He was the "Range Rat" at his best! He met people from all over the country and beyond and showered them with tips on improving their game. He was excited to share his latest tips from his favorite golf video instructor of the moment. The only person who consistently resisted his golf information was Pam. There was always too much information to process, and too little time for being coached into oblivion.

He was a one of a kind husband, father, brother, uncle, cousin and friend. Tony was preceded in death by parents, Anthony and Nell Ann Dodge; and brother, Tommy Dodge. He is survived by loving sons, Anthony Joseph Dodge of Frederick, MD and Matthew Thomas Dodge of Pittsburgh, PA; precious grandchildren, Zack and Zion Dodge of Montgomery Village, MD and Tommy Dodge of Pittsburgh, PA. Tony was the brother of Richard Dodge, Southern Pines, Joseph Dodge (Holly), Jackson Springs, Valerie Goerig (Steve), Milford, CT and James Dodge (Trudy), Monroe, CT; sisters in law, Deborah Downey Afasano (Ray), Clearwater, FL, Joan R. Downey, Guilford, CT and; was a beloved uncle and cousin to his many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life with reception will be held in May in Southern Pines. Details will be sent out. Online condolences may be made at [www.BolesFuneralHome.com](http://www.BolesFuneralHome.com). Cremation arrangements were handled by **BOLES FUNERAL HOME**, December 20, 2024.

Ashes will be scattered by family and friends at a later date-the day will be sunny and

bright with gently rustling leaves of green, brightly colored flowers in bloom and favorite birds welcoming Tony to his forever home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donation to The Pamela and Anthony Dodge Endowed Scholarship in Memory of Ruth Butters, LPN, c/o Jennifer Dail, :Sandhills Community College Foundation 162 Causey Hall, SCC Campus, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374; or First Health Foundation, Hospice, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374; or FISA Foundation (Championing equity, justice, safety and inclusion for women, girls and people with disabilities), 535 Smithfield Street, Suite 710, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.