



Richard Carlisle Cecil

JAN 14, 1931 - JUL 18, 2022



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Richard Carlisle Cecil

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Richard “Dick” Carlisle Cecil, age 91 of Lewes, DE, passed away at Beebe Hospital on Monday, July 18, 2022. He was born on January 14, 1931, in Wilmington, DE, son of the late Carlisle and Martha (Perry) Cecil. Dick was happily married for over fifty years to Ruth “Lynn” Evelyn (Stein) Cecil before her passing two years ago.

Mr. Cecil was a graduate of PS DuPont High School, Class of 1948 and later received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Delaware, as well as an MBA from Cornell University.

After college, Dick was commissioned as a 2LT in the U.S. Army and served two years as an artillery officer. After graduate school, he worked for the DuPont Company. Dick transitioned into the insurance industry and later into politics and banking. He was elected to the New Castle County Council and served for 20 years as Councilman for the 2nd District. Dick was elected to the 2nd VP position in the National Association of Counties and also served as the head of the Delaware Association of Counties for many years. He also served as the Deputy Insurance Commissioner for the State of Delaware and was the recipient of the prestigious Palmer Award for his career contributions to the insurance industry. Up until a few years ago, Dick was still the head of the U.S. Selective Service in Delaware. He was a Christian, involved in the Methodist Church, and raised funds for charity through the Ministry of Caring. Since he was a young man in the Jaycees, and up until his final days, Dick loved helping his community and served in leadership positions in almost countless organizations that improved the local area, including being the founding member and president of the Rehoboth Beach Sunrise Rotary International Chapter.

Dick loved to travel and visited many parts of the world, including several countries in Europe, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, and Brazil, as well just about every state in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii. He was also a very patriotic person and a member of the Military Officer’s Association and the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Dick was also a proud



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Mason and member of the Royal Order of Jesters. He was also inducted into the Court of Honor for his service to Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Dick enjoyed being involved in politics at all levels, working not only on his campaigns, but those of others as well. He and Lynn even met President Reagan as part of their duties in Washington, DC when he served on the Republican National Committee. Dick was a consensus builder, got things done for his fellow citizens, and made many friends across the aisle while doing so.

Dick loved his family and friends, and of course, his many pets. His favorites were his wonderful Irish setter, Lucky, and affectionate Siamese cat, Felix. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. We have the fondest memories of vacations spent in Lewes with close friends and members of the LBAAA. Dick and Lynn eventually “retired” to Lewes Beach and became very active members of the Lewes Yacht Club for over a decade. Dick never could bring himself to fully retire and only Covid restrictions, followed by poor health, eventually stopped him from having a full calendar of events.

In addition to his parents, Dick was preceded in death by his wife, Lynn; his first wife, Connie; his sister, Susan; and his son, Richie. He is survived by his sons: Robert Cecil (Terilyn) of Lewes, DE and Ryan Cecil (Nathalie) of Centreville, DE; his grandchildren: Roxanne and Eric; his niece, Deborah Vaughn of Cary, NC; his nephew, John Marshall of New Fields, NH; and his sister-in-law, Geraldine Stein of Wilmington, DE.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at 3:30 PM, at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, where friends may call beginning at 2:30 PM. Burial will be private.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3PM, FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2022, TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.



Events

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Viewing

 **Saturday**, July 30, 2022

 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM ET


 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



Funeral Service

 **Saturday**, July 30, 2022

 3:30 PM ET

 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958





Tribute Wall

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DK

Donald B. Kiddo posted:

A belated tribute to my long standing and recently fallen friend and classmate, Dick Cecil: We hope that Robbie, Ryan, Roxanne, and Eric will accept my deep regrets and those of my wife Nancy, son Dale, and daughter Donna, as well. We learned of Dick's demise very recently and are greatly saddened, but greatly enriched for having had Dick and the family as long standing friends. Dick and I went from kindergarten through high school in the same class, and then through the University of Delaware, graduating together in 1952. Dick was always a close, cheerful, generous, responsive, demonstrative, and greatly admired friend. We enjoyed vacation visits with the family at Lewes long ago; greatly and still remembered fondly. We've lost a great family friend and the world has lost a great citizen. He served his community and the world as well as anyone I have ever known.

October 4 at 4:43 AM



C Anthony McDonald posted:

Sorry for your loss, I have many great memories about Dick from our NAIFA meetings and conferences. Dick always had great stories! Tony McDonald

August 4 at 7:31 AM

MC

Matthew D. Chase posted:

On behalf of America's county officials, we thank Dick Cecil for his years of incredible public service and passion for serving residents across Delaware and the entire nation. He was a true statesman, mentor and friend. We honor and celebrate his life and friendship. Matt Chase, CEO, National Association of Counties

August 4 at 5:55 AM

RB

Rick Becker posted:

So many wonderful years, wonderful memories, my parents and Aunt Lynn & Uncle Dick, along with their tailgating friends, their Lewes friends, their dinner bridge friends, they were always having fun, and getting into something. I remember babysitting for Richie, Robbie & Ryan, the summers at the beach, Aunt Lynn being my substitute french teacher in high school Your father lived a long, wonderful, and colorful life, Robbie & Ryan you should be proud, just as he was proud of you. Rick Becker

July 29 at 1:22 PM



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Anonymous sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Cecil family.

July 29 at 3:20 AM



Anonymous sent a Small Garden Dish to the Cecil family.

July 27 at 7:53 AM



John Riley posted:

I served with Dick on County Council for two years. We were the only two Republicans on Council so our caucus meetings were small and brief, mostly consisting of, "How are you going to vote on this?" Dick was very good at understanding the concerns and the mood of his constituents and we rarely disagreed on a course of action. He was an excellent representative for his district but civic activists, bent on stopping John Rollins from building a mall in place of the old Brandywine Raceway, attacked him as not being aggressive enough in his opposition. I was proud to help him in his primary battle but the anti-growth sentiment in North Wilmington proved too much to overcome and as a result the citizens lost a good man. I always enjoyed running into Dick in later years. He always had a smile and good word about the old days on Council. RIP my friend! John Riley

July 27 at 2:34 AM



Anonymous sent a Sweet Tranquility Basket to the Cecil family.

July 26 at 3:46 PM





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JS

Jim Scott posted:

Sorry to read about Dick's passing. He was a good friend, he got me into the Jaycees, was a Kappa Alpha Order brother. he being at U. of D. (Beta Epsilon) and me at Washington College (Beta Omega) and a fine model for helping me in the Insurance Industry. Both graduates of P.S. duPont. A geat guy. Always with a smile.Jim ScottVero Beach FL

July 24 at 11:31 AM

CC

Charlie Covington July 31 at 12:53 PM

Charlie Covington Dick was a great example to many young men in the Wilmington Jaycees. I served under his guidance on many projects. Dick always gave credit to the young men who worked on his projects. He was an example of what a leader should be.Charlie Covington

CM

Clay Monroe posted:

To the Cecil family:It is with sadness learning of Dick's passing. Our friendship started through our Professional Association, NAIFA over 30 years ago. It continues today as members of Rehoboth Beach Sunrise Rotary Club. As a charter member of this club, I watched Dick's passion as Charter member and Charter President, develop this club to leadership in our community. Always putting others before himself. He was truly "Service Above Self".It was a privilege and honor to share rides to events with Dick and Lynne and share thoughts. Will always remember our international Rotary friendship exchange programs.Sharing with a life and legacy well done, may he Rest In Peace..Clay A Monroe CLU, ChFC Lewes, De

July 24 at 7:45 AM



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JR

John W. Lodge, Nccpd - Ret. lit a candle in honor of Richard.

To the Cecil family:I had the pleasure and honor of working with Dick during my tenure with the New Castle County Police. During that time frame, I was assigned to the Fiscal Control Unit which helped formulate the Police Department's annual budget. With Dick being a member of County Council, Dick was a friend to the Police Department during those years and helped the Department to grow in size, respectability and technical innovations. He was fair and direct and always placed the citizens of New Castle County first. A better person could not be found in that his personality, warmth and humor would always be in the forefront.I know that he will be greatly missed but he will not be forgotten. He stood on a solid personal foundation that sought consensus among his fellow council persons and sought to help bring the "best" to the citizens of New Castle County.I will be keeping Council Person Cecil in my thoughts and prayers.John W. Lodge, Ret.-LT.New Castle County DE police 1975 - 1998



July 23 at 10:49 AM

AL

Arno "Skip" Loessner July 24 at 6:30 PM

Dick was a fraternity brother and inspiration. Always a pleasant demeanor and a concern for others. He was a great guy. My condolences to his family.

MM

Melinda Mcguigan July 24 at 5:32 PM

To the Cecil Family,I am sorry for your loss. I always enjoyed sitting with Dick at Rotary meetings. He always had something nice to say and was a true pleasure with whom to chat. Rest In Peace, Dick.Melinda McGuigan



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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