



# Howard C. Henn

AUG 12, 1938 - MAR 24, 2023



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## Howard C. Henn

AUG 12, 1938 - MAR 24, 2023

**H**oward Henn, 84, of Lewes DE died suddenly the evening of March 24, 2023. He loved his family immensely, especially his children Susanne Henn Malmos, Carolyn Henn, and James Henn and his son-in-law Robert Malmos and daughter-in-law Melissa Knight Henn. He thought about his deceased daughter Anne-Marie Henn every single day since her death in 1982. He loved his seven grandchildren, James Malmos (deceased), Daniel Malmos, and Ryan (Dana Spain) Malmos, Amanda McNally, Brian McNally, Katie Henn, and Riley Henn (deceased). He was a huge fan and supporter of his wife of 59 years, Katherine Gabler Henn, in her many academic endeavors. He is survived by his brother David Henn, his niece Lisa Henn (Jefferson) Barr, his nephews Michael (Debra Guididas) Henn and Peter Henn and their children, and his sisters-in-law Maggie Gabler (Glen) King and Mary Gabler (Bill) Dennis and his nephews and nieces. He was pre-deceased by his brother-in-law, Edward Gabler. He cherished his many friends, especially his Lewes long-time sailing buddy, Robert Porta.

Born in 1938 in Brooklyn NY, the son of Howard and Frances Higgins Henn, (both deceased), Howard held a master's degree in engineering from Columbia University. Early in his career he worked for Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, NJ on the Niki Zeus project. In 1963 he joined Bell Labs in Holmdel, NJ. He joined Exxon Research and Engineering in Florham Park, NJ in 1966 and over the next thirty years he worked as a project manager installing and upgrading computer systems at refineries around the world. In that process he moved his family to Phoenix, AZ; Karlsruhe, Germany; Neshanic, PA; Punto Fijo, Venezuela; Surrey, England; Keeston, Wales; Houston, TX; Baton Rouge, LA; Hunt Valley, MD; Tokyo, Japan; Singapore; Milan, Italy; Benicassim, Spain and finally London, UK.

He loved children and as a young engineer worked on designs to allow children with cerebral palsy to be able to operate computers. Over the years he was involved in the construction of several state-of-the-art safe playgrounds. He also spent years teaching computer skills to



## Obituary

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“displaced homemakers” at the County College of Morris, NJ, for which he received an award from the State of New Jersey. He also taught computer skills at the Battered Women’s Shelter in Morris County. Most of his trainees found successful careers.

Howard was a set builder for the Barn Theatre in Montville, NJ. At age 70 he won the “rookie actor” award for his role as Old Hermie in the Summer of ’42, beating out a cast of very experienced teenagers. For many years he served as a Trustee at Longview at Montville’s HOA. In Lewes he was a member of the Lewes Yacht Club, the Lewes Historical Society and an Instructor member at the Lewes based Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, where he especially enjoyed the company of the English Country Dance group.

A former resident of Westfield, NJ, where he belonged to the Christian Family Movement and enjoyed many long-term friendships, especially with his friend Deacon Tom Pluta. In death he will return to them and be buried with many of them at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield, NJ.

A Visitation will take place at the Parsell Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE on Friday, March 31, 2023, from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

A Visitation will take place on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, 506 Westfield Avenue, Westfield NJ 07090, from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM.

The family has a special relationship with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness, [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)) 4301 Wilson Blvd., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 and requests that you direct any memorial donations you wish to give to this worthy organization from which Howard’s family has directly benefited.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

**FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3:00 PM ON THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023, AT OUR LEWES LOCATION.**



# Events

**Howard C. Henn**

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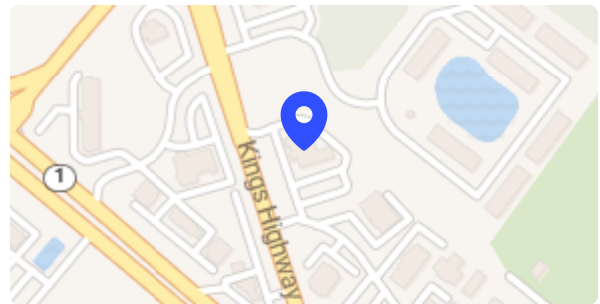
## Visitation

**Friday**, March 31, 2023

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET

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

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



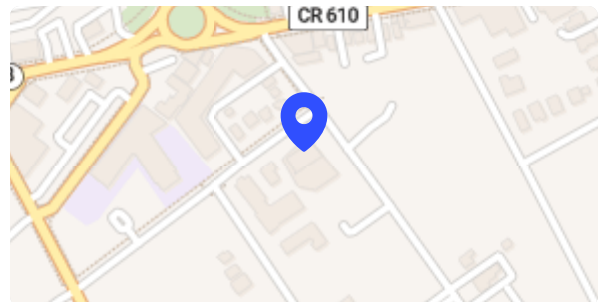
## Visitation

**Tuesday**, April 4, 2023

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

**Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church**

506 Westfield Ave., Westfield NJ 07090



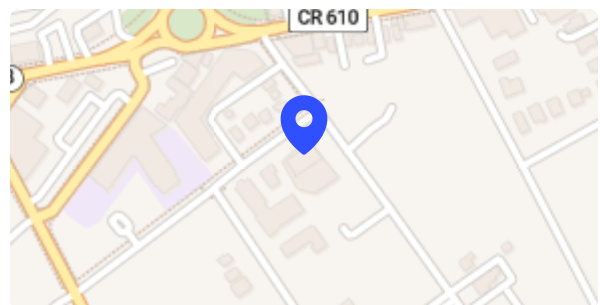
## Mass of Christian Burial

**Tuesday**, April 4, 2023

11:00 AM ET

**Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church**

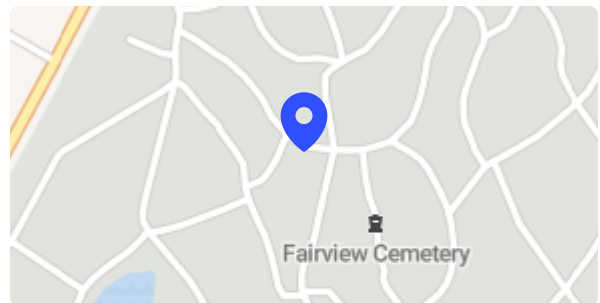
506 Westfield Ave., Westfield NJ 07090



## Cemetery Details

**Fairview Cemetery**

1100 East Broad Street, Westfield NJ 07090





## Tribute Wall

**Howard C. Henn**

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DB

**Dan Bilharz** posted:

My most memorable time with Howard was a trip to Princess Anne from Lewes with me driving and him in the passenger seat. We talked about our professional lives and he talked about many of the places he and his family had lived around the world. On the way home he gave me turn by turn directions to get from Millsboro to Lewes which I had never traveled. Kathy later told me he was impressed with my driving and that I always stayed about 5 miles over the speed limit. I will always remember his stories and will always be blessed that he was a friend. Dan and Norine

April 3 at 1:12 PM

JH

**James Henn** posted:

My dad was always bringing home electronic gadgets, it sparked my interest in video games and technology. My dad was always supporting me in everything I wanted to do. I had traveled the world by the time I was 16. There was never a time that he wasn't there for me. I have always tried to live up to his example as a father. I attribute everything good and lasting in my life to my parent's steadfast and loving support. I love you and will miss you Dad. JAMES

March 30 at 8:49 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Howard C. Henn**

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KH

**Katherine Henn** posted:

A farewell to my husband: My life with Howard was always an adventure. Even the ordinary domestic routine could become an event. Such as Howard coming home from work. We always had our evening meal all together with the children around our large kitchen table. Howard would come through the door calling "where are they?" And the children would come running to greet him. Carolyn was always the last in, maybe on purpose, because her Daddy would always seek her out. "Where is she; where is my little Boonie?" And then she popped up with hugs and kisses. The meal itself was chaotic with everyone trying to talk at once, rehearsing their day, with spilled milk, tipping this and that, mopping up here and there and sometimes tears. Once when he was a grown man our son James said to me that he looked forward to supper all day long as a kid. I used to sing to Howard a paraphrase of that song from Camelot: "If ever I would leave you", only I changed the words to: "it would be before supper." But I never once wanted to leave. Howard was always up for something new. A new project with the CFM group, a new involvement with the children, a new job in a new city, and often in a new country. And he never complained, never was depressed, even in the last years of his life when he had a lot of physical pain, he was always positive and supportive. Whenever something bad happened Howard kept steadfastly moving forward. I used to have to run to keep up with him. And now another new challenge for us. I can almost hear him coaching: "keep on keeping on". And indeed, we will, for there is something very satisfying about a generous, loving, and honorable life coming to completion which soothes our grief. Our relationship continues as we remember so many days and so many ways Howard brought joy to his fellow journeyers along the various paths of our shared lives. Farewell with abundant love, Kathy

March 27 at 1:58 PM

SS

**Sondra & Harold Scharf** sent a virtual gift in honor of Howard.

They say that good fences make good neighbors and it was so true of the Henn's and the Scharf's who shared a back yard fence for many, many years. While we were very good friends, Howard was our 'go to' neighbor for everything. He was always free whenever we called and always solved the problem without a question.

He never had a 'bad time' for us. We think of him often and Kathy has kept us up to date. Howard gave so much to all. It's time for him to rest now.



March 29 at 3:10 PM



## Tribute Wall

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AD

**Ann & John Dalton** posted:

We moved from Chicago to Westfield in August 1969 where we had been active in the Christian Family Movement. We joined the CFM group at Holy Trinity Church where Howard and Kathy welcomed us, beginning a friendship that continues to this day. Ann and I took our first overseas trip to Italy in 1987 while Howard was upgrading Exxon's Milan refinery. We took our first cruise to the Panama Canal with Howard and Kathy. Both engineers (Howard an E.E. from NJIT, me an M.E. from Stevens), we shared a common vision of applying our skills to make the world a better place. We will miss you dear friend.

March 29 at 12:13 PM

SS

**Susann Studz** posted:

My condolences to the family. Howard was such a sweet man who led an extraordinarily rich life. His support for the Osher Institute of Life Long Learning in Lewes was a tribute to his final years, mostly spent in Delaware. Kathy Henn was obviously his rock and guiding star.

March 28 at 9:42 AM

SM

**Susanne Malmos** posted:

My dad had a lot of pet names for me, some silly, some sarcastic. I will miss his sense of humor. Most people I know, besides my camp friends, call me Susanne. I haven't had knicknames except for the many names my dad called me. I doubt anyone will ever call me Suzzles again and I'm pretty sure no one is going to call me Flash Farkle. My dad was a fun and positive man and taught me a lot about rolling with the punches in life. I will miss you, Daddy!

March 28 at 9:37 AM

BM

**Barbara Mullin** posted:

My condolences. I was a student of Katherine Henn in Osher classes and husband Howard was always there in the back of the room in support. Barbara Mullin

March 28 at 8:05 AM



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**Carolyn Henn** posted:

When I was in 9th grade, I decided to join the town softball league. Westfield asked if my father would umpire in the league. He said yes. I thought this was great. Get out a little bit, meet some new people and put a good word out for me. It came that day though when my Dad umpired my game. I stoled home, he called me out at home plate. On the way home, I asked him, Dad why did you call me out? He said, I called it the way I saw it. My Dad was the fairest, most honest person I know. I know how hard that call was for him but he always told me how much he loved me. REST IN PEACE DAD! I LOVE YOU! BOONIE

March 27 at 1:58 PM



**James Henn** March 30 at 11:24 AM

My dad was always bringing home electronic gadgets, it sparked my interest in video games and technology. My dad was always supporting me in everything I wanted to do. I had traveled the world by the time I was 16. There was never a time that he wasn't there for me. I have always tried to live up to his example as a father. I attribute everything good and lasting in my life to my parent's steadfast and loving support. I love you and will miss you Dad. JAMES



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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