



Philip Charles Wescott

October 28, 1943 - February 9, 2020

Phil Wescott of Lewes, Delaware died on February 9th at his home, surrounded by his family. His family and his career were both important to Phil. So were his aesthetic interests and his spiritual growth and development. During his lifetime he pursued several different careers and interests and was known as a true people person.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on October 28, 1943, he was the fourth child of Louis Sebastian Wescott and Genevieve Flynn Wescott, both of Olean, New York.

Phil was a graduate of Kiskiminetas Springs School [“Kiski”] in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania, as well as of Wabash College, Indiana University [Bloomington], and the University of Delaware.

He married Carol Hocker of Evansville, Indiana in 1966 and they were subsequently blessed with three children.

After military service during the Vietnam War, he pursued a career in marketing and communications, primarily in the healthcare industry. He was an executive at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and at the Christiana Care Health System, and also organized and operated several successful small businesses.

Phil was a gifted communicator, in diverse formats. He worked for leading Advertising and Public Relations agencies in New York and Chicago, including Saatchi & Saatchi and Burson-Marsteller. He enjoyed art, both as a practitioner and as an observer and collector. He also read and wrote non-fiction and poetry.

After helping establish and then branding Delaware’s Christiana Care Health System, Phil joined the communication faculty at the University of Delaware until his retirement in 2008. Throughout his career, he enjoyed mentoring young talent, and he was repeatedly recognized as an Outstanding Advisor to UD students and campus organizations. He retired from the UD faculty and subsequently enrolled in his third Master’s degree program

there.

He was also active as a Board member of numerous professional and community organizations, including the Public Relations Society of America, the Delaware Community Foundation, the American Marketing Association, the Girl Scouts of American Chesapeake Bay Council, the Rehoboth Art League, and others; he also helped organize and open the Charter School of Wilmington, Delaware's first Charter school.

After Carol's death in November 2006, Phil met Judith Wells Brunner of Wilmington, and they enjoyed many happy years together, traveling and spending time at Rehoboth Beach. He often said that his life was greatly enriched by Judy, who also encouraged his creative pursuits. They lived at the Bay Crossing community in Lewes, Delaware in recent years.

In addition to Judy and his three children, Phil is survived by nine grandchildren. His children are Kimberly Gee [husband Bryan] of La Grange, IL, Kristen Schneider [husband Bruno] of Paris, France, and Mike [wife Andrea] of San Carlos, CA. Grandchildren include Abby, Maddie, and Caroline Gee, Scarlett, Harlowe, and Brooke Schneider, and Josie, Charlie, and Sean Wescott. His brother, Bill Wescott, of Richmond, VA also survives, as do seven nieces and nephews. Judy's sisters, their husbands, her brother and his wife and all their children and grandchildren have loved Phil for many years.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 at St. Joseph on the Brandywine Roman Catholic Church, 10 Old Church Road, Greenville, Delaware, where friends may visit beginning at 9:30 AM. Burial will immediately follow at St. Joseph on the Brandywine Cemetery. Arrangements are being handled by Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, Lewes, Delaware.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Phil's memory to the Tunnell Cancer Center in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware or to the Heart and Vascular Center at Christiana Care Health System in Newark, Delaware, in memory of Carol Wescott.

Please sign the online guestbook located on the tribute page.

Cemetery

Events

St. Joseph's on the Brandywine
10 Old Church Road
Greenville, DE, 19807

**FEB
18**

Visitation

09:30AM - 10:30AM

St. Joseph's on the Brandywine
10 Old Church Road, Greenville, DE, US, 19807

**FEB
18**

Mass of Christian Burial 10:30AM - 11:30AM

St. Joseph's on the Brandywine
10 Old Church Road, Greenville, DE, US, 19807

Comments



“ I never got the opportunity to know Philip but the father of such a marvelous person as Kristen could only be a good man, and as godfather of his grandchild Scarlett I geek very sad for this passing away. All my thoughts accompany you, Kristen, and the family, during this difficult week. Amigo

Emmanuel Julien - February 20 at 03:44 AM



“ Thank you for your kind words, Amigo.

Kristen - 6 hours ago



“ I met Phil in 1993 at ChristianaCare. He was a very likeable person with a deep knowledge of communications and many other things in life. He had a great sense of humor too. Fare winds and following seas, Phil.

Pat Ritchie - February 19 at 01:44 PM



“ My dear friend, Kris, my heart breaks for you, Kim and Mike. I wish I could be there to give you all a hug but please know I am thinking of you all and sending you lots of love.
Love and prayers, Kelly (Warren Endsley)

Kelly Endsley - February 17 at 07:38 PM



“ Kristen, Bruno, Scarlett, Harlowe and Sac à bisous. Fred and I, we share your grief. Like 15 years ago, Zaza is by your side. My deepest condolences to Kim and your brother, and to all the Wescott family. Phil was a very “nice guy”. All my love. Z

zaza - February 17 at 12:38 PM



“ Many thanks to you and Fred, Zaza.

Kristen - 6 hours ago



“ I was lucky enough to become a friend of Phil's in 1999, when he was among the very first to befriend me as a newcomer to Delaware. We worked together on several projects, and later, became colleagues when he joined the faculty at the University of Delaware. Just last Fall, we agreed to co-teach a course at the Osher Academy of Lifelong Learning in Lewes; regrettably, Phil was forced by health issues to bow out before our class began.

Phil was always a warm and welcoming friend, always eager to find an uplifting angle to the crisis of the day. He was deeply interested in the role of journalists and news media in society, a strong point of connection for us after my previous career in Washington.

I can hear his rich, strong voice and see his instant, broad smile. I'm sorry we weren't able to teach together again.

To all his family, and to Judy, I wish strength... and, eventually, peace... through this transition.

Most sincerely,

Ralph Begleiter

Ralph Begleiter - February 16 at 08:53 PM



“ I met Phil while working with Employee Wellness at U.D. He was such a fun-loving and great guy who always spoke highly of both Carol and Judy. Phil supported and participated in several AHA Heart Walks, which I so appreciated. My condolences to the family.

With sympathy,
Marianne Carter

Marianne Carter - February 16 at 06:40 PM



“ Phil was my friend both in Wilmington and at the beach. We developed a presentation for the Osher Center in Lewes and worked together on marketing projects at Christiana Care.

He had a very positive attitude about our work.

Bob Wilson
Rehoboth Beach

Robert Wilson - February 15 at 03:27 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Philip Charles Wescott.



February 15 at 01:13 PM



“ Thinking of your Mike and family. We are so sorry for your loss.

With love and prayers,
Becca & Rich Kizer

Becca Kizer - February 14 at 10:16 PM



“ Still in shock over the death of my beloved Uncle/Dr. Phil. I will miss him dearly. He enriched our lives and helped my Aunt Judy find her smile again. There will be a little less purple in our lives. Love you Phil!

James Allen - February 13 at 11:05 AM



“ I only had the pleasure of meeting Phil a couple of times but found him to be a gracious, warmhearted gentleman. A true example of the Wabash mission to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively and live humanely. Please accept my sympathies on behalf of his entire Wabash community. Some Little Giant. Susan Dyer

Susan Dyer - February 13 at 09:26 AM



“ Dearest Kristen,
Your dear father, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
We will offer a mass for your beloved father and light a candle for the repose of his soul.
With love and prayers,
Terence, Sofia & Margaret

Terence de Cruz - February 13 at 07:16 AM



“ Thank you so much, Terence, Sofia, and Margaret.

Kristen - 5 hours ago



“ Je compatis sincèrement à la douleur qui est la votre aujourd’hui.
Je vous envoie toute mon affection en ce triste moment.
Toutes mes condoléances.
Isabelle.

isabelle - February 13 at 05:36 AM



“ Merci beaucoup, chère Isa.

Kristen - 5 hours ago



“ Kristen,
I have just read of the passing of your dear Father, Philip. May he rest in peace. I send you my own heartfelt sympathy and a promise of Mass and prayers at this time of grief.
Also, on behalf of St Joseph's Mission Anglophone community, I send our support and prayers. You, your Dad and all the family will be remembered at the Masses here this weekend. Please accept these few words as a token of our deep affection for you and solidarity with you at this time.
Aidan

Aidan Troy - February 12 at 01:57 PM



“ Thank you so much for your kind words, your prayers, and remembering us at the masses, Father Aidan.

Kristen - 5 hours ago



“ What a fun person, I teased Phil that he was much older than me, by one day! We enjoyed times in Evansville and especially that our daughters have been best friends since grade school. Kim, Kris with a K and Mike we send Lots of Love and Prayers and Hugs to all of you and your children, Mimi & Coach

Richard & Jane Remien - February 12 at 01:37 PM



“ Thank you for your love and prayers, Mimi and Coach.

Kristen - 5 hours ago



“ De tout cœur avec vous bien que je n'ai jamais rencontré Phil. Il était le Papa de ma belle-soeur Kristen et le grand-père des mes trois nièces.

Eric Schneider
Mer, France.

Eric Schneider - February 12 at 01:09 PM



“ Je te remercie beaucoup pour le soutien, Éric. Kristen

Kristen - 5 hours ago



“ Dear Friends and Family -

I am still in shock as Phil and Mike were just here in the Texas Hill Country. I really enjoyed their company and Phil was still my apple-cheeked cousin with that infectious laughter.

Rest in peace dear cousin. I have nothing but fond memories of the Wescott family - especially our visits to your home the North Hills of Pittsburgh. Phil may have attended North Catholic HS - I still love him nevertheless.

Peter Durkin AKA "Petah" as Uncle Louie called me :-)
South Catholic '65

Peter J. Durkin - February 11 at 06:02 PM



“ Still in shock over the death of my beloved Uncle/Dr. Phil. I will miss him dearly. He enriched our lives and helped my Aunt Judy find her smile again. There will be a little less purple in our lives. Love you Phil!

James - February 12 at 11:54 AM