



Richard Carlisle Cecil

January 14, 1931 - July 18, 2022

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 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.

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 30. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel
16961 Kings Highway
Lewes, DE 19958

Funeral Service

JUL 30. 3:30 PM (ET)

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel
16961 Kings Highway
Lewes, DE 19958

Tribute Wall



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

C Anthony McDonald - August 04 at 11:31 AM

MC

“ 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

Matthew D. Chase - August 04 at 09:55 AM

RB

“ 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

Rick Becker - July 29 at 05:22 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Carlisle Cecil.



July 29 at 07:20 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Richard Carlisle Cecil.



July 27 at 11:53 AM

JR

“ 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 a 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 ant-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

John Riley - July 27 at 06:34 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Carlisle Cecil.



July 26 at 07:46 PM

JS

“ 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 Scott

Vero Beach FL

Jim Scott - July 24 at 03:31 PM

CC

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

Charlie Covington - July 31 at 04:53 PM

CM

“ 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*

Clay Monroe - July 24 at 11:45 AM

JR

“ 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*



John W. Lodge, NCCPD - Ret. - July 23 at 02:49 PM

MM

*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*

Melinda McGuigan - July 24 at 09:32 PM

AL

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.

Arno "Skip" Loessner - July 24 at 10:30 PM