Richard E. Huff

November 26, 1929 - March 30, 2015

Richard Huff, age 86 of Holland, passed away peacefully Monday, March 30. Dick grew up on the east coast, one of two sons, his dad a Reformed Church minister. Summers often brought him to the forests of New York, and what would be a lifelong love of the Mohonk preserve, near New Paltz and the Hudson River. He came to Michigan for his college years, meeting his wife Phyllis, and what would become a very special connection to Hope College that would eventually see him return to the town he loved, in his retirement. In between, the east coast called him back for a 38 year career in New York City, working on Wall Street (Vice President of Standard & Poors, and AMBAC Indemnity), with involvement in a long trajectory of management and analysis in the bond field that helped create dams, hospitals, buildings, and a wide range of other corporate and public works projects across the country. He also served as President of the Monroe-Woodbury Board of Education, and as Chairman of the Tuxedo Planning Board, both in NY state. His young family started in Montclair NJ, and in time built a new home in the green forests of New York state, in the community of Sterling Forest, started newly at that time to bring together cultural events, a botanical gardens, corporate research center, and more. Architecture had always been an interest for Dick, and this found expression in working with an architect and professor at Columbia U. on a Frank Lloyd Wright inspired home, in which his daughter Nancy and son Tom spent much of their childhood. Teenage years were later in the suburban town of Westfield NJ, before the kids were off for college, and Dick

approached retirement. At which point, the call of Holland brought him back to this place he loved, with then 20+ years of fulfilling involvement in local activities, through various planning and development boards, an enthusiastic following of Hope athletics, and the beauty of Lake Michigan, Big Red, and Tulip Time. And a very special affinity throughout for all of the memories and friendships centered around Freedom Village. He is survived by his beloved grandsons Andrew and Daniel, and by Tom, Phyllis, Nancy and her husband, Mark, who was like a son to him. Following his wishes, the family will have a small private funeral, and a larger memorial get-together in a month. Burial will be in the Pilgrim Home Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to Hospice of Holland, Hope College, or the Mohonk Preserve. The family is being served by Langeland-Sterenberg Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th St. Holland, MI 49423. www.langelandsterenberg.com

Tribute Wall

Richard E. Huff

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM

JJ

"Nancy,Mark, please accept our condolences on the loss of your Dad. Our prayers are are with you and with his soul. We didn't have the pleasure of ever meeting your Dad but we know a man who was able to raise such a kind and generous daughter was an great man indeed."

John J - April 28, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LP

"My thoughts and prayers are with you. I worked at the bank inside of Freedom Village.
Dick was the very first one I saw the day we opened. I always enjoyed talking with
Dick. A very distinguished man, lots of knowledge. I recall the day his 1st grandson
was born, so proud. You all have my sympathy."

Lela Pifer - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MN

"I always appreciated Dick's support of our basketball program and me as "his" coach of "his" team. He was an encourager and I wil forever remember that."

Matt Neil - April 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CP

"As a developer in Holland I always enjoyed Richards participation on the planning commission, his thoughtful and calm influence was always welcome. My sympathies go out to his family and friends.Cal PrinsPrins Development"

Calvin Prins - April 06, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PF

"My deepest condolences. I spent many years working with Dick on Holland's DDA board and committees. He loved Downtown Holland and was such a contributor to all our efforts. Thoughts and prayers are with you."

Patty Fitzpatrick - April 03, 2015 at 12:00 AM