



Joel James Rutter

August 26, 1936 - May 1, 2024

Joel James Rutter, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, passed away on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at the age of 87. Born in New York City on August 26, 1936, to Walter Bernard Rutter and Rita Joan (Murphy) Rutter, Joel grew up in the Bronx within a large Irish family.

Known for his entrepreneurial spirit, Joel was a proprietor with Sun Oil Company in White Plains and was the proud owner of the Stanford Publick House in Stanfordville, New York. A true renaissance man, Joel's passion for life extended to his love for classical music, historical literature, and his skills in the kitchen, earning him the title of a "foodie." Joel found a love for woodworking, a craft he discovered while building their family home. His skill and dedication translated into beautiful furniture pieces that became treasured heirlooms for his family. Alongside his wife Claudia, with whom he shared 63 wonderful years, Joel embarked on various adventures, like living on a sailboat for a year and a half, working as cooks at a fishing camp in Alaska, and camping along the Alaska Highway. Their shared love for exploration and the simple joys of life solidified a bond that will forever endure.

Joel will be dearly missed by his family, including his beloved wife, Claudia Rutter; daughters, Jennifer Thompson (Michael), Shannon Dunn (James), and Betsy Edwards (Patrick); 13 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; and a brother Robert Rutter (Pat).

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Walter Rutter, Jr.

As we celebrate his life, we invite friends and family to join us for a memorial service in the fall at West Hebron United Methodist Church in West Hebron, New York.

In memory of Mr. Rutter, contributions may be sent to West Hebron United Methodist Church, 3178 County Rt. 30, West Hebron, NY 12865.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.shortfh.com.

Tribute Wall

CA

“ I have the privilege of being one of his grand children. I will forever cherish the summers spent at your house as a kid. I will always remember the cloth napkins at dinner and the fresh sprig of parsley on every plate. You taught me to make fresh pizza from scratch and to play gin rummy and Yahtzee. Every night after dinner you both took the time to sit down and play games or do puzzles. You took us on our first train ride. You let us be kids in a world where that isn't so easy anymore. You taught us to be kind and generous to anyone we meet. You truly are one in a million. To anyone who reads this don't mourn for me, mourn for all the people that didn't have the privilege to know such an amazing man. I am truly blessed that I have had him as my grandfather. I will miss you every single day! Love you always ❤️

cate - May 06, 2024 at 12:44 PM

MI

Grandpa was truly an amazing man and an amazing role model for me growing up. I still remember the walks we would take through the woods or going up the hill on hidden trails. I will never forget the advice he gave me before I enlisted and the amazing love and support he showed me throughout the years. I love you grandpa and I miss you ❤️

michael - May 07, 2024 at 10:26 PM

RK

I went to high school with Joel in Englewood, NJ. We remained close friends for a few years thereafter and I visited Joel and his partner, Ken Hamilton; when they operated their Sunoco gas station in White Plains. Lost track of him after he married and left NJ. He was a wonderful person and friend and remained that way as attested to by his grand children. RIP Joel.

Bob Klahre

Robert A. Klahre - June 04, 2024 at 07:46 AM