

Charles W. Bresnahan

January 19, 2023



Peabody - Charles W. Bresnahan, "Charley", 94, of Peabody, MA, formerly of Medway and Rockport, MA, husband of Patricia A. (Heil) Bresnahan, passed away peacefully at his home on Thursday, January 19, 2023, with his family by his side. Charley was born in Medway, MA on April 7, 1928, and was the son of the late Lawrence J. and Helen (O'Hara) Bresnahan. He was predeceased by his sister, Marie.

Throughout his youth, Charley excelled at many sports. He was an avid skier and ice skater, a gifted tennis player, and frequently rode his family's horses. Charley was a graduate of Saint Mary's High School in Milford, MA where he was captain of the baseball team and president of his class. He attended College of the Holy Cross, '50, on a full academic scholarship and was a member of the Navy ROTC. He generously supported his alma mater for his entire life, attended reunions into his late eighties, served as class agent, was a season ticket holder for school football games, and frequently sported his favorite color purple as a show of his school loyalty.

Charley was a devoted and active member of his community. He raised his family in both Medway and Rockport, MA. His entire career, until his retirement at the age of eighty-eight, was spent in the insurance industry where he was regarded as an expert in commercial insurance and was well admired and respected, engendering great loyalty from his many clients and colleagues.

Charley served as a Medway Selectman and Park Commissioner and acted in the local amateur theatre group. He was an active member of The Charles River Tennis Club, Rockport and Bass Rocks Golf Clubs, and Sandy Bay Yacht Club. A voracious reader, he was a lifelong learner and lover of languages, and served as a living encyclopedia for his doting granddaughters, who would call him for answers to seemingly impossible questions. He enjoyed tending to his rose and vegetable gardens, sailing, and flying his Cessna Skyhawk. Charley loved spending time with family and friends, was a master of grilling and charades, and made a mean Manhattan. He was unfailingly kind, going out of his way to help those in need, and while continuing to work, took time each week to deliver Meals On Wheels with his wife, Pat. Above all, he was a true gentleman.

He is survived by his loving wife, Pat, to whom he was married for 69 years; his daughter Carol Bresnahan and her wife, Michelle; his daughter Susan Ekman, her husband Anders and their two daughters, Libby and Sophie; and his son Scott Bresnahan.

His memorial service will be held on Thursday, February 2nd at 11 a.m. at St. Joachim Catholic Church, 56 Broadway, Rockport, MA.

Burial at Beech Grove Cemetery in Rockport will be private and held on a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations made be made in Charley's name to Foundation Fighting Blindness at fightingblindness.org Online condolences may be given at: www.greelyfuneralhome.com