



Edward William DeJon

JAN 1, 2023



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Edward William DeJon

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Obituary of Edward William DeJon Please share a memory of Edward to include in a keepsake book for family and friends. [View Tribute Book](#)

Born in New Haven, Connecticut to parents Barbara Kraus and Nicholas A. DeJon. Ed is survived by two daughters: Patty Ward (Alan) and Bettye Lou Slaven (Rick); 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren whom he taught to do their best and to help others.

Ed graduated from Georgia Tech (Class of 42) while on a football scholarship with a BS in Industrial Engineering. Upon graduation he married his cherished Bettye Ray and then enlisted in the US Navy as an Ensign and achieved the Rank of Lieutenant Commander. When his light cruiser, the USS HELENA, was torpedoed in WWII and sunk, Ed was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism in saving numerous lives including the Captain from drowning.

When the war ended, he began a 33-year career with Johns Manville and became Houston District Manager. During his time in Houston, he was President of ASME, Commodore of the Houston Yacht Club, where he began the youth sailing program (RAGNOTS) in 1956. He was instrumental in the development of the Girl Scout sailing program at Camp Casa Mare in Seabrook and awarded the Volunteer Award of Harris County by the Girl Scouts.

Ed was also named the Outstanding Alumni of Georgia Tech of Houston. In 1966 Ed moved from Houston to his beloved Galveston Bay owning several sailboats at the Houston Yacht Club. He was happiest on the water when sailing and racing his various sailboats. Ed was awarded Admiral of the Texas Navy signed by the Governor.

Ed's motto was service, honor, and courage. Life was not about him or what he had done but about how he could leave others whom he had come in contact with in a better place. He was led by action, kindness, and a servitude that is irreplaceable. Ed left the world a better place and enriched the lives of everyone he came in contact with.



Obituary

Edward William DeJon

Services are Saturday, January 7, 2023 at 11 am, 12 pm reception at La Porte Community Church, 202 S. First Street, La Porte, TX 77571, Burial will take place at 1:30 pm at nearby La Porte Cemetery.



Tribute Wall

Edward William DeJon

PC

Paul Caradec posted:

A loyal and close friend of my family and an HYC icon, Mr. DeJon enriched my life in so many ways. He demonstrated so many important qualities, such as a great sense of humor (and being a good sport when the humor was directed towards himself); do whatever it takes to get the job done; trustworthiness; and thoughtfulness. Sense of humor/being a good sport: At the crack of dawn one Sunday in my middle-school years, my HYC boadmember Dad (Andre'), Past Commodore (PC)/Mr. Lamkin, and my oldest brother Doug installed a toilet (discarded from the HYC locker room) on the judge's stand, along with a sign where it was written: "De Jon on De judges stand". This was in jest of our friend and PC/Mr. Dejon. Do whatever it takes: When I was about 10 years old and participating in a gathering of friends and family in the HYC dining room celebrating my Grandmother Rose's birthday, HYC PC/Mr. DeJon discovered that the green beans were not prepared to his liking. Rather than burdening the HYC server with the responsibility of providing the Chef with a lengthy procedure on how to "properly prepare" green beans, Mr. DeJon left our dining table, walked into the kitchen, and cooked another batch of beans himself! Trustworthiness: Occasionally, my Dad, along with friends (Hollys, Helms, Lamkins, Dejons, Cooledges, Talichets, and a list of others) would be locked in the HYC bar area late at night so that the staff could go home. Although they were not officially authorized by HYC to do so, the guys would mix their own cocktails and log the charges on their HYC bar tabs. Thoughtfulness: Thanks to most wonderful daughter Patty taking the role of chauffeur and travel companion, Susan and I were blessed to see PC/Mr. Dejon at HYC fairly often in recent years. Always impressed us how he had the energy and love of life to journey to HYC to see friends and hang out. Each time, he would ask me how Rosebud (my Mom) and my two brothers (Doug and Jim) and were doing and what all were doing these days. Was so thoughtful he was concerned with their well being. Foremost was his sharing a most important lesson (taken from his experience in the process of abandoning ship during WWII) that, as difficult as life may be at times, to never lose faith. Trustworthiness:

January 7 at 7:00 PM

PV

Pat & Mike Vecellio posted:

One of a kind. We will miss this smart, funny, kind man! Privileged to have known him. Prayers for his family, RIP Ed.

January 4 at 7:00 PM

SK

Simon Kpurkpur posted:

I have heard a lot about who you are , not just your achievements in the Navy or services in the land of America but also your great heart of kindness and humanitarian acts... God Bless your soul and keep your family strong. Love from Simon

January 3 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Edward by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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