



Denis L. Royston

November 24, 1925 - July 7, 2020

Denis Litchfield Royston

B 11-24-25 D 7-7-2020

Denis was born to Frank and Dorothy Lydia (Hughes) Royston in Leytonstone, England on November 24, 1925. Dorothy died in 1932 and Frank later married Ivy, the mother of Denis' stepsister Margaret (Hugh Watson). Denis and Margaret were seavacuated during WWII from England to Canada in 1939. Their parents and Denis' older brother Ken (Gwen, Edna) remained in England.

Denis was a pilot in the Royal Canadian Airforce from 1944 to 1949 while he attended the University of Toronto to pursue aeronautical engineering. Denis married Gladys Shirley (Munshaw) in 1953 and they relocated to England. Their son Trevor (Sandy) was born in England. They moved back to Canada and daughter Cathy (Scott Shapero) was born. In 1959 the family moved to Michigan for engineering work. Denis worked for Vickers and the subsequent companies that bought it for 32 years. After Shirley died in 2000 Denis had a long relationship with Jean Shapero until her death in 2017.

Denis enjoyed golf and fishing. He loved listening to baseball and opera on his transistor radio and later through his "Alexa". In his later years he traveled throughout North and South America and Europe sightseeing and fishing. He was active throughout his life and was always eager to go on any outing or trip when asked. The last two years of his life he lived at the senior community of Waltonwoods in Novi, Michigan where he made close friendships with people there.

Denis was an active member of the Birmingham, Michigan Toastmaster Club from 1961 until 2019. He held a variety of positions throughout the years in the club and brought Jean and Neil Shapero in as well.

Denis is survived by his sister Margaret (Hugh) Watson, children Trevor (Sandy) Royston and Cathy (Scott) Shapero, grand children Erik and Kelly Royston, Neil (Meghan) Shapero and Kristen Shapero (Mike Bautista), and great-grandchildren Penelope and Isaak Royston, brother-in-law Blair Munshaw (Sandra Manning) and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Denis passed away after a short illness. He had been away with family in March and May and was able to be with Cathy & Trevor when he passed peacefully on July 7, 2020. A

private internment will be held for immediate family due to Covid-19.

Donations in honor of Denis may be made to Game On Cancer at Henry Ford Cancer Center, West Bloomfield, Michigan. Denis and Jean had been involved in fundraising initiatives for supporting families of people with cancer for many years and they were proud of the work being done there. A Team has been named in Denis' honor for this year's drive.

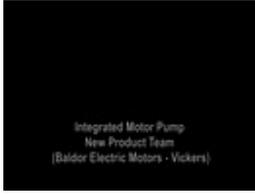
http://hfordh.convio.net/site/TR/Events/GameOnCancer?team_id=2604&pg=team&fr_id=1

120

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Remembering Denis at Vickers



Phil Swisher - August 07, 2020 at 01:36 PM



“ Phil, thank you so much for posting this lovely video of pictures of dad with his Vickers family. He cherished his years there and the friends he made along the way. That was very nice of you to put this together. Cathy & Scott Shapero

Catherine D Shapero - September 01, 2020 at 06:11 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Phil Swisher - August 06, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ Thank you Phil for sharing your memories of Denis with us. Sandy and Trevor Royston

SANDY ROYSTON - September 02, 2020 at 08:49 AM



“ First met Denis when I joined Vickers on Crooks Rd from Double A. Consulted with Denis on engineering issues. Denis and I would sometimes talk about airplanes and aviation, very knowledgeable and interesting conversations. Denis was a very nice and generous person. I saw him again in September 2019 at a Vickers lunch reunion, still the same very nice Denis.

Bill Zoller - August 04, 2020 at 08:50 AM



“ Thank you Bill for your memories of Denis.

SANDY ROYSTON - September 02, 2020 at 08:46 AM



“ Denis was a rock star as part of the R&D team at Vickers. In 1964 I was assigned to the R&D department to help promote their programs. Denis and I traveled to various places together; I remember visiting Lockheed in Sunnyvale, CA. a few times. We would fly into SFO and because of the 3 hour time difference, we would have dinner in the city before driving to Sunnyvale. Of course the next morning we were sleep-deprived, but Denis always carried the day. His knowledge was the key item, but his English accent was also helpful!

Denis also played softball; he was a pitcher. One game I was the umpire and called a "ball" when the pitch was obviously a "strike". Denis never said anything but gave me "stink-eye". I never made a bad call again.

I have fond memories of Denis. It seems he had overall a good life. That's the way it should be; Denis was a good person.

Ted Tanase - August 03, 2020 at 04:34 PM



“ Thank you Ted for your fond memories of Denis.

SANDY ROYSTON - September 02, 2020 at 08:44 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. We consider ourselves lucky to have gotten to meet and spend a little time with Denis. I'm confident your memories are positive as you reflect on a life well lived. Our sympathy - Kurt and Diana Wise

Kurt Wise - July 14, 2020 at 09:20 PM



“ Thank you Kurt and Diana.

Catherine D Shapero - July 31, 2020 at 11:05 PM



“ Denis has been a friend for many years. He was always a perfect Gentleman. He was kind, thoughtful and gracious and we have very fond memories of our times together. Our sincere sympathy to the Family. Bill and Joan Hewitt

joan hewitt - July 10, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ Thank you Joan he and my mom had many good memories with you and Bill. Our love goes out to you and Bill as well.

Catherine D Shapero - July 31, 2020 at 11:06 PM



“ Cathy I'm so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May your memories of your Father comfort you. Vicki Honeycutt



Vicki Honeycutt - July 08, 2020 at 11:57 PM



“ Scott and Cathy.... so sorry for your loss. ImmJeans long time friend from Fort Laudetdale..... later moved back home to Pennsylvania. Lou and I attended her 65 th birthday party and I attended several family gatherings at your home with Jean. Met Dennis and enjoyed every time we got together. He was such a fun person and gentleman. He will be missed...

Cordially Carol Almond.

Carol Almond - July 10, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ Cathy & Scott - We are so very sorry to hear that Denis has passed. He was a wonderful man who left a mark on our lives that we will cherish forever. So many lovely conversations, so many happy memories of the years he and Jean (and Georgie!) spent together. May you always feel the love he had for you and your family and may your memories of the happy times you shared help you through this challenging time. We send our sincere sympathies.

Kindly,

Debra & Tim Griffith

Debra Griffith - July 11, 2020 at 12:02 AM



“ Thank you Vikki, My family and appreciate your condolences and especially your thoughts and prayers!

Catherine D Shapero - July 31, 2020 at 11:08 PM



“ Thank you Carol and Lou! My dad loved getting to know Jean's friends and attending parties and events with her. I am glad he had the opportunity to get to know you!

Catherine D Shapero - July 31, 2020 at 11:09 PM



“ Thank you Debra and Tim! I know that he and Jean had many wonderful times with you two and you were very important people in their lives.

Catherine D Shapero - July 31, 2020 at 11:10 PM