



Henry Otto Holtschneider

January 7, 1937 - March 9, 2020

Henry O. Holtschneider, born Jan. 7, 1937 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died March 9, 2020 in Novi, Michigan at the age of 83.

Along with his brothers Charles and James Holtschneider, Henry was raised by parents John and Susan Holtschneider to value family, religion and great music. Known for his warm wit and mischievous nature, Henry was recognized as a loving husband and father, a reliable friend, a giving volunteer and a great boss.

After earning a bachelors degree in chemical engineering from Penn State University, Henry moved to southeast Michigan to begin his career and receive an MBA from the University of Detroit, eventually joining Ford Motor Company where he would spend 30 years serving as a chemical engineer, retiring in 1997.

More importantly, the move to Detroit allowed Henry to meet Mary E. Martin, the woman who would become his wife in 1961. Henry and Mary went on to have eight children and seven grandchildren.

Henry is survived by his wife Mary, his children Rev. Dennis Holtschneider, Joe (Elaine) Holtschneider, Donna Holtschneider, Peggy Holtschneider, Karen (Howard) Hampton, John (Kathleen) Holtschneider, Casey Holtschneider, and his grandchildren Eric Zwierzchowski, Scott Zwierzchowski, Cassidy Hampton, Stephanie Hampton, Sheila Holtschneider, Eric Holtschneider and Jay Holtschneider. He was predeceased by his daughter Janet Holtschneider.

Henry was an active member of his church throughout his life, including being a founding member of St. James Catholic Church in Novi, Michigan where he served as an usher and

member of the vocation committee.

His love of music was well known. He played piano, bass and accordion, but got the most joy from live jazz music, whether performed by a member of his family or by one of the talented professional musicians at the annual Detroit Jazz Festival.

Visitation will be Thursday March 12, 2020 at St James Catholic Church 46325 W. Ten Mile Thursday 10:00am until the funeral Liturgy at 10:30 a.m. Interment will follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (25800 W. 10 Mile Road, Southfield, MI).

Memorial contributions may be made to the LYTE Collective, an organization founded by Henry's daughter Casey Holtschneider to provide resources to Chicago youth dealing with poverty and homelessness. Donation information can be found at www.lytecollective.org/donate/

Donations also can be made in Henry's name to Catholic TV, a network that provided much comfort to Henry in his latter years. Donation information can be found at www.catholictv.org/donate.

Cemetery

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

25800 W 10 Mile Rd
Southfield, MI,

Events

MAR **In State** 10:00AM

12

St James Catholic Church
46325 W. Ten Mile, Novi, MI, US, 48374

MAR **Liturgy** 10:30AM

12

St James Catholic Church
46325 W. Ten Mile, Novi, MI, US, 48374

Comments



“ Dear Aunt Mary & Family Thinking of you all ~ & Remembering Uncle Henry Blessed with a long life & beautiful family

Ellen Pastir - March 13, 2020 at 11:55 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Henry



Debra, Jeff - March 11, 2020 at 11:26 PM



“ If “Mr. H.” were here I know he would have the perfect anecdote, story or joke & would let us all know in the wink of an eye how much he loved us. The truth is we’ve all lost something incredibly precious & none of us will ever be the same. He taught us courage & strength with every word he spoke & every action he took. He had a faith that was solid, steadfast & quite contagious. He believed in basic goodness, in innocence born in the hearts of every human being. He never once wavered from the simple truth that the life he shared with his family was of the greatest value & that there was nothing this world could ever produce that could compare to that. If you believe that there are angels just sitting around in heaven, then you have to believe that they were just aching to get Mr. H. up there so he could liven up the place. We have to remember to share all the good times yet to come with Henry, & there will be many, because he will be living in my heart & yours for the rest of our lives. Let us remember his life has changed, not ended. We could never have had a better friend, Debra, Jeff & Jimmy Kittka

Debra, Jeff & Jimmy Kittka - March 11, 2020 at 11:09 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Henry Otto Holtschneider.



March 11, 2020 at 12:17 PM



“ The loss of another friend from St James. While many remember, Henry for his humor and wit, there was a deeply serious and dedicated side of Henry. He was passionate when engaged in causes. For example, he pushed to keep the vocations committee alive, looking for new ideas, when most would have brushed it aside. While I know the last few years were hard on him, he remained optimistic and positive. Our conversations were always engaging - sprinkled with laughter and sprinkled with thoughtfulness. You will be missed Henry
Deacon Glenn Melenyk

Deacon Glenn Melenyk - March 11, 2020 at 08:11 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of Henry's passing. He lit up every room, church, jazz club, restaurant, party, retreat, etc. he walked into...What a presence Henry was!

It was always a joy to be with him and to be blessed by his big wide smile.

Henry was a star on earth to those who knew him and now a star in heaven watching over us with that impish grin.

Love,
Colleen Volpe

colleen volpe - March 10, 2020 at 05:55 PM