



William Grady Kennedy, 101, of Hartford, CT, loving husband of the late June Olcott Roberts Kennedy, passed away peacefully on February 12. Bill was the son of Dr. Henry Grady Kennedy and Imogene Newsom Kennedy and was born August 26, 1920 in Decatur, IL where he grew up with his younger sister Rose and graduated as the Valedictorian of his high school class of 1938. He attended CalTech and received a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. In 1942 he was offered a position with Pratt & Whitney at their East Hartford headquarters and soon after married Connecticut native June Roberts.

June and Bill lived in Wethersfield, CT for 67 years, raising two sons, Rick and Phil, and a daughter, Sandra, before moving to Avery Heights in Hartford in 2010. During their early years of marriage, Bill's job with Pratt & Whitney shuttled the family to Oak Ridge, TN several times where he received Reactor Engineering and Theory Training with honors. They also took the family on numerous cross-country road trips to visit Bill's extensive family in Texas... once in a small, retired city bus outfitted as a motor home!

Bill's career flourished at P&W where he rose from Experimental Engineer to Group Supervisor and Assistant Project Engineer. In the mid-1950s he became the Head of Administrative Staff for Test Instrumentation for a 450-member division at the Connecticut Advanced Nuclear Energy Laboratory (CANEL) in Middletown, CT.

After leaving P&W in 1971, he decided to try working in the Real Estate field, acing his licensing test. Several years later he was hired by Combustion Engineering where he worked on various nuclear power plant projects until his final retirement in 1986.

Bill liked to relax at their family cottage at Lake Hayward in East Haddam, CT where summers were spent with the children enjoying sailing, swimming and playing tennis. Many weekends found him under the hood of his car, or up on a ladder maintaining his home and cottage. He was a man of many talents!

He was a member of the First Church of Christ in Wethersfield for over 50 years participating in many of their programs and serving as a Deacon. He also was active in the Wethersfield, CT chapter of Civitan for over 50 years including a stint as Treasurer.

Bill took up golf with his father at an early age and continued to play the game with company leagues throughout his life until he finally retired his clubs at the age of 94.

Bill had many lifelong friends with whom he kept in close contact. After moving to Avery Heights he and June continued to make many new friends.

June died in 2018 at the age of 99 just two weeks short of their 75th wedding anniversary. Bill is survived by their son Richard Kennedy and his wife Rosemary of East Haddam, CT; son Philip Kennedy and his wife Pat of Wethersfield, CT; daughter Sandra Kennedy and her husband Jim Pfeiffer of Bayfield, CO; grandson Shawn Kennedy and his wife Luma of Raleigh, NC; grandson Justin Kennedy of Raleigh, NC; grandson Elliot Hyde of Vernon, CT; grandson Benjamin Hyde and his wife Sarah of Amston, CT; granddaughter Jamie Kennedy and her husband Creighton Hurt of Durham, NC; granddaughter Shannon Kennedy and her partner Jon Borges of Los Angeles, CA; great-grandsons Kingston Hurt of Durham, NC, and Musa Kennedy of Raleigh, NC.

There will be a private family memorial ceremony.