



## Philip C. Howse

November 2, 1927 - February 15, 2019

Philip Chase Howse, 91, husband of Winifred Mary "Pat" (Pattison) Howse, passed away peacefully in his sleep after a short illness on Friday, Feb. 15, 2019, in the Meadows at Shannondell, Audubon, PA. Born on Nov. 2, 1927 in West Chester, he was a son of the late Mary (Chase) and James W. Howse.

Phil grew up in the family Zook House in Exton, PA. -- now a museum and flower shop -- on a 75-acre farm now the site of the Exton Square Mall. There he milked the family cow, Buttercup, and chopped wood to heat the family home during the Depression. He started school in a one-room schoolhouse in 1933, and eventually graduated from West Chester High School in 1945. Following high school, Phil served in the U.S. Army in Germany just after the end of World War II.

Upon returning to the states, Phil attended Lehigh University, and soon after married his longtime sweetheart, Pat. He began working for DuPont, a job that took him and his new bride and son to seven states in three years. For most of his career, he worked for Superior Tube Company, in Colleagueville, and held the position of Chief Financial Officer upon his retirement in 1994.

An avid golfer, Phil loved his early morning outings at Aronimink Country Club, where he and Pat recently became "Super Senior" members. He even shot two holes-in-one in his career, one at the 17th at Merion. Phil also enjoyed

sailing in the Chesapeake Bay with his family, and among his many hobbies, he took up scuba diving at age 65 and continued into his eighties. Phil also held a pilot's license.

While Phil's work afforded him many business trips, it was after retirement that he began to travel in earnest with Pat, who always had wanderlust. Together they visited many countries and especially enjoyed Lindblad Nature Adventure tours on small cruise ships which were very fun and educational.

After a 25th wedding anniversary trip to Barbados in 1976, he and Pat fell in love with Bajan culture, the sand and the sea, and began yearly visits that they continued for 40 or more years. During their yearly visits, they made many good friends in the community by joining in with the early morning swimmers in Paynes Bay and also by joining St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Phil was blessed to have been able to make a final trip to Barbados this past summer, at which time he and Pat got to visit with many of their longtime friends and attend services at St. Stephen's again.

Phil was also an active member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Phoenixville, where he was a member of the Vestry, and sang in the Choir for 54 years. He also served for many years as the Treasurer and was a member of the Stewardship Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Volunteer service had always been a part of Phil's life, from being a Boy Scout troop leader to Schuylkill PTA treasurer, to volunteering at the Phoenixville Library doing taxes for seniors, as a "Shelf Elf" and then as Treasurer. He volunteered at Phoenixville Hospital twice weekly from 1994 - 2018, and in the latter years of this service, when he stopped driving because of failing eyesight, he took Uber rides to and from the hospital, becoming somewhat unique for the fact of paying good money to go out to volunteer. He was also an active member of the Phoenixville YMCA, where he was an early bird

exerciser for many years.

Phil loved the many different family pets he and Pat had over the years, especially their cats and a unique pet turtle, "Burtle the Turtle," who lived in the swimming pool in the summer and in the house over the winter. Burt lived to be 20 years old and was known to greet guests at the doorway for their holiday parties.

In addition to his loving wife of 68 years, Philip is survived by his sons: P. Chase Howse, (Becky) of Glenside, Thomas J. Howse, of Jackson, NJ and Daniel A. Howse, (Chris), of Houston, TX; grandchildren: Samuel, Phoebe, Ben, Leah, Jake and Sydney as well as numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his siblings: James W. Howse and Virginia Miller.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the celebration of his life at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 121 Church Street, Phoenixville, on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 11:00 am. Friends and family will be received from 10:00 am - 11:00 am at the Church. Officiating will be The Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Phil's name to the St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Capital Fund Campaign, 121 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460 or to the Phoenixville Public Library Foundation, 183 Second Avenue, Phoenixville, PA 19460. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc. Condolences may be offered online at [www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com](http://www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
121 Church Street  
Phoenixville, PA 19460

## Memorial Service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
121 Church Street  
Phoenixville, PA 19460

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ I remember Phil as a great gentleman, loyal friend, smart businessman and raconteur. In reading his obituary I also learned that Bert's full name was, "Bertle the turtle". The last thing Phil said to me a few weeks ago was, "...have a great eternity". Back at you Phil, have a great eternity!

*Marty Samchalk*

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**Martin Samchalk** - March 03, 2019 at 07:44 AM

JB

“ dear pat and family,my remembrance of phil goes back to the early days at st.peters when our sons where acolites,michael john and joseph many great memories and respect ! this your neighbor down the road in st johns circle,jay and betty brown !god bless and and our deepest sympathy.



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**john w brown** - March 01, 2019 at 10:29 AM

MM

“ Had the pleasure to spend many good times together in Barbados. Watching the evening sunsets & hearing about all the wonderful trips they had together. Phil would make Patrick & I what I called the best rum punch ever.They inspired us with life. My husband had the pleasure to be with Phil on his last dive in Barbados. Will always remember the evening they arranged when we went to the Prime Minister's House for repeat visitors. Glad we had so many nice times together & Pat we send our thoughts & love to you. Mary & Patrick Manley

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**Mary Manley** - February 28, 2019 at 07:44 AM

NF

“ Condolences go out to the family . From the five Fuerman Boys

Neil Fuerman - February 23, 2019 at 09:39 PM

PB

“ I'd like to offer my condolences to Pat and all her family. I'm so sorry to hear the news. That being said....what a wonderful life he lived. How lucky everyone has been to have had him around for so long!

Peter Brown - February 22, 2019 at 11:46 AM

SK

“ Syl and I share our finest condolences to Pat and the boys on the passing of Philip.



Sal & Sylvia Katz - February 19, 2019 at 12:34 PM

RA

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Robin Anstaett - February 19, 2019 at 09:50 AM