

In Thanksgiving for the life of  
Walter William Strakosch

May 20, 1928 - May 30, 2015



Saturday, June 27, 2015

4:00 in the afternoon

Christ Episcopal Church,  
Sausalito, California

*"Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints;  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting."*

## WALTER WILLIAM STRAKOSCH

Walter William Strakosch (“Walt”) was a remarkable human being. Born in Manhattan, New York on May 20, 1928, Walt was raised in Queens with his two older brothers, Frank and George. In 1946, Walt joined the Marine Corps but saw no action until he joined the active reserve in 1949 when he was called to duty in the Korean War. Before the Korean War, Walt attended CASE Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He attended one year before being called to duty as many young men were in that time. Proud to serve his country, Walt was sent to California with his company to Camp Pendleton to begin his tour of duty in Korea.

After returning from the war, Walt was so smitten with California that he transferred to the University of Southern California where he met his wife of 58 years, Mary Ann Hill. Walt, Mary Ann and their daughters — Lori, Erika, and Kris, lived in San Marino, California for many years. After working for the Interstate Commerce Commission for more than 20 years, Walt took a job with BART in San Francisco and moved to Marin County in 1985 with Mary Ann. He loved his town of Mill Valley and his Church, Christ Church, where he served on the parish vestry, on search committees, and is perhaps most lovingly remembered as the consummate head usher. Walter knew that ushers were the first people that newcomers met when visiting a church and he wanted to be sure everyone felt welcomed.

Walter was saddened to have to make the decision to leave the Bay Area in 2014, but he knew that it was important for him and Mary Ann to be closer to their children and grandchildren in Southern California.

A huge transportation, train, and roller coaster buff, Walt wrote many articles regarding mass transit . . . many of which were published in local papers. Walt was a member of the Roller Coaster Club of America. One of his favorite things to do was to ride the scariest and fastest coasters in the country.

Walt was a devoted husband and father, a proud grandfather, and a true patriot. His family will miss him dearly, though they know he is out there, having the best time ever, riding that big roller coaster in the sky.