



Philip J. Lichtenfels

September 8, 2021

Age 91, of Monroeville, died peacefully in the early morning of September 8 after a life well lived. Phil was born in Pitcairn, PA to the late Philip Mosheim Lichtenfels and Geraldine (Schoff) Lichtenfels. His loving older sister, Betty, helped to look after him in his early years. After graduating from Pitcairn HS in 1948, he attended Bucknell University where he quickly met the love of his life, Janice Schoener; they were married for nearly 70 years. Phil graduated in 1952 with a degree in economics and minor in secondary education. He was a member of the only undefeated football team in Bucknell's history. He then graduated from Army Officer Candidate School and served as a Company Commander with the 101st Airborne at Ft. Jackson, SC. He was honorably discharged and later certified as a Disabled American Veteran. Phil's long and distinguished civilian career began in 1955 when he joined the Westinghouse Electric Company as an Office Methods Analyst. He eventually rose to become the company's first Chief Information Officer (CIO). He then served about ten years as the CIO at Heinz Corporation. Phil never wanted to retire and worked parttime on consulting projects right up until April of this year. He received many honors and awards throughout his career and in 2016 was named CIO of the Year by the Western Pennsylvania Technology Council. He was very dedicated to the information technology profession and served on numerous voluntary advisory boards, including for Duquesne University and the PA Governor's CIO Council. He was a dedicated mentor to innumerable IT professionals over the years, and they remain his friends to this day. When he

wasn't working or serving others (which was most of the time!), he pursued a wide range of hobbies and interests such as gardening, building furniture, military history, model trains and airplanes, to name a few. Phil is survived by his loving wife, Janice; children, Philip Arthur (Debbie), Carol Ann Dunn, William John, and James Edward; grandchildren, James Philip Dunn (Jillian), Rylie Dunn Spencer (Mark), and Philip David Lichtenfels; numerous great-grandchildren; nephews, Al Felgar and Lee Felgar (Lescha), niece Amy Felgar, and their families. Phil was a loving and hardworking man, loyal to friends and family. He will be sorely missed by all of us. Rest in your well-earned eternal peace. Phil's memorial service will be private. Arrangements entrusted to the GENE H. CORL FUNERAL CHAPEL INC. AND CREMATION SERVICES OF MONROEVILLE. Notes of condolence may be sent to the family via Corl Funeral Chapel, www.corlfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall

JH

“ I had the honor to spend 1 year at Westinghouse in Pittsburgh as a USAF Officer in 1979-80. Phil was my mentor. He was the consumat leader, mentor and friend. Janice, I'll always remember visiting with you and Phil and Jimmy. Was thinking of Phil while watching the recent steelers game. Phil truly taught me the meaning of loving his profession and family.
Jack Harris, Colonel USAF (Ret.)

Jack H Harris - October 29, 2024 at 12:26 PM

SK

“ Phil, Phil, Phil my friend, mentor always happy to help who taught me "Effeciency".

First met him during an interview for IT consultant at Westinghouse, which I rejected. One hour later, 5 pm, Friday after interview, Phil stayed one to one with me and convinced me to take the position at Westinghouse Nuclear Power Plant's Information technology group. I did.

Always helpful, friendly, simple yet serious man of delivery taught me a lot of life, love, work, friendship, and mainly efficiency.

I spoke to him few days prior to my leave of USA 2013 and his last words to me were "DEVELOPMENT IS JUST BASIC EFFICIENCY"

lots of love to Janice.



Sri Karma

Sri Karma - October 10, 2024 at 09:28 PM

KF

“ I worked for Phil in the early 80's at Westinghouse where he led the charge for improved white-collar productivity. He was both a great leader and a phenomenal innovator. Never to be the author or subject of a futuristic best seller, he was the implementor of the future who caused changes in processes and technology that gave us the office and tools of today. He quietly and steadily changed the way we view work. Truly a great man.

Keith Fowler - November 11, 2021 at 07:37 PM

RA

“ I am sorry to learn of Phil's death. I worked for Phil for years and the wisdom he passed on was unbelievable. His skill in developing strategy and resulting success for Westinghouse was unmatched. And the talent he groomed was outstanding.

A couple of years ago, I ran into Phil in a restaurant. We hadn't seen each other for 20 years. We small talked and Phil left. About 30 minutes later he came back and said who are you ! The fact that he came back shows his caring and attitude. He was indeed my best superior in my 40 years at Westinghouse.

Bob Adams

ROBERT LEE ADAMS - September 16, 2021 at 11:36 AM

“ My first encounters with Phil was indirect, through colleagues at Westinghouse. The common theme between these encounters was that all these colleagues had extremely high respect for Phil and considered him a fatherly figure or mentor. Also, all those colleagues were typically 20 to 30 years my senior. Consequently, At that time, Phil's image in my head was grandfatherly, pioneering, and an extremely intelligent mentor's mentor; may be a little hard to approach like all such people tend to be.

Then circa 2018, I finally met Phil on a cold January day in Pittsburgh in a business meeting. Both of us had left Westinghouse years ago and were working at our respective consulting companies. Phil was trying to broker a partnership between the two firms. That in person meeting and subsequent encounters confirmed the image of Phil in my head, except for the hard to approach part. Phil was in fact very personable. More importantly, it allowed me to see the real Phil in action and caught a glimpse into his personality, which I will try to enumerate below.

Selfless. Phil always had everyone's best interest in mind. His way of thinking seems to have been wired to think first about how to enable others to do more good for everyone and not about personal gains..

Focus. Phil could maintain a laser-sharp focus on the goal through the fog of chaos. Phil was not one to fuss with pettiness. In the coopertition world of consulting where firms often try to hold on to a project even though they don't have the ability to deliver. Phil saw through these attempts as both futile and unproductive for everyone. He would be the first one to suggest that the firm seeks outside help.

Generosity. Phil shared his vast experience and observations freely and openly, often without those on the receiving side realizing that they needed help.

Honesty and integrity. Even when Phil was on the other side of the negotiation table, I felt that I could trust him with a simple handshake. Because of his selflessness and generosity, I knew he would never do anything to deceive or harm me.

Hard charging. Does he ever take vacations?

Today, I see Phil as someone I want to grow up to be like. I only wish that by the day I die, I would have inspired, educated, mentored, and enabled half as many people as Phil had. That would be an extremely tall order.

Rest in peace Phil, or are you already hard at work in heavens trying to improve things up there?

Ray Ng - September 14, 2021 at 11:31 AM

CW

“ *Janice and family, as an old friend, please accept my condolences.*

Chuck Webb

charles w webb - September 13, 2021 at 10:05 PM

YT

“ *Thank you for allowing us the honor of caring for Philip. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know our care remains here for you and your family through your grief. We hope we can offer comfort and strength during this difficult time of loss. With heartfelt sympathy, Your Heartland Hospice Team.*

Your Heartland Hospice Team - September 13, 2021 at 11:57 AM

RS

“ Proud to be his Granddaughter, I pray Douglas has found you. You were the best part of my life, regardless of what was going on. You were always so proud. Rest with the peace, grandpa. I will hold you in all my memories. Thank you for EVERYTHING you did for all of us. Your generosity was never ending.

Rylie Dunn Spencer - September 11, 2021 at 10:56 PM

GR

I served with Phil at Duquesne University's Advisory Board for many years and Phil was key to the success we had. He will be missed by all. I will miss the calls and lunches we shared together.

George Rosato - September 13, 2021 at 10:09 AM

PL

As Phil's half sister I certainly am sorry to learn of his passing via the internet. Jan, my thoughts are with you. Pat

Patricia Lichtenfels - October 10, 2021 at 08:41 PM