

Richard Haden Hammond Jr.

November 2, 1937 ~ August 1, 2026 (age 88)

Obituary & Services



Tribute Wall

Richard Hammond Jr. Obituary

Richard “Dick” Haden Hammond, Jr. passed away peacefully on August 1, 2026.

Born on November 2, 1937 in Philadelphia, PA and lifelong resident of New Jersey, Dick lived a full life devoted to his family, his career, his many hobbies and his volunteer commitments. Dick was blessed with a big heart and a robust laugh.

Dick was happily married to Joan Ellis for many years, who preceded him in death. Together they raised two children, Michael Kirk Hammond (Beatrice) and Carrie Hammond Sumas (Nicholas). After Joan’s passing in 2003, Dick was fortunate to find love again and married Ann Louise Pursell, with whom he shared many happy years. Dick’s family was a great source of pride and joy to him, especially his grandchildren Ethan, Alyssa, Alexandra, Jack, Ella, Kailey (Ishmael) as well as Ann’s children, Lisa Grotjahn (Bill) and Kristina Stubbs (Jamie), grandchildren, Troy, Chad (Lisa), Matthew and Nicholas and great-grandchildren Blake, Grant, Logan and Greyson. To them, Dick was lovingly known as Pop Pop.

From an early age, Dick loved a good adventure. For example, at age 16, he embarked on a solo backpacking journey from New Jersey to California. Dick graduated from Haddonfield Memorial High School in 1956 then was very proud to attend Lafayette College from where he graduated in 1960 with a BA in Business Administration. During college, Dick’s love of adventure continued when he took flying lessons at the local airport. In 1961 following graduation, Dick joined the Army where he flew helicopters, eventually retiring as a First Lieutenant in 1963.

Following his military service, Dick started his professional career in employee benefits consulting first with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, then Johnson & Higgins and finally A. Foster Higgins & Co from where he retired in 1993 after 30 years of service in the industry.

Dick had a true zest for life and a passion for pursuing his many hobbies. He loved spending time outdoors whether walking one of his many treasured dogs, fishing, sailing, hunting or tending his lovely vegetable garden. Dick also had a true curiosity about history and a devotion to his beloved Eagles and Phillies. Dick embraced his interests with vigorous enthusiasm and loved that they provided an opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

Dick strongly believed in giving back to the communities and organizations that were particularly meaningful in his life. He was an active member of Grace Church in Haddonfield first as acolyte during his teen years and eventually as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and a coordinator of the food bank in his later years. His alma mater, Lafayette College, remained deeply important to Dick, volunteering as an alum and supporting the college that had played such an important role in his life. Through the American Legion, Dick continued his service with fellow veterans often visiting middle schools and high schools on Veteran's Day. Dick was also a proud member of the Mayflower Society.

Dick will be remembered for his warmth, his outgoing nature, his devotion to his family and friends and his willingness to always lend a hand. He will be missed by many.

A memorial service held at Grace Church in Haddonfield, New Jersey on Friday, August 28th at 10:30am.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Dick's Memory to the American Legion Post 38 or to Lafayette College.

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