



Bernard F. Gruber

February 23, 1932 - October 12, 2016

Bernard Francis "Bud" Gruber, age 84, died peacefully on October 12, 2016, at Bayleigh Chase in Easton. He is the son of the late Ellen Frei and Bernard M. Gruber.

Bud was born in Bethlehem, PA, on February 23, 1932, and grew up in Wyomissing, PA, in a home where education was of great importance, as his mother was the grade school principal. He graduated from Wyomissing High School in 1949, and Pennsylvania State University in 1953. He was employed by the Olivet Boys Club in Reading, PA, and then served for two years in the US Army. Subsequently, he worked for the Prudential Insurance Company in both New York City and Allentown, PA. Bud moved to Devon, PA, to work for Albert J. Lussier, The Country Squire, a clothier for men and women, and a business he later owned. He was a Rotarian, a sailor on the Sassafras River, a skier, an avid blood donor, a Conestoga High School band parent, a volunteer for the Devon Horse Show, and a pilot of both power and soar planes.

At the time of his retirement, Bud moved to Oxford, MD, and quickly engaged in the life of his new community. He was a member of the Tred Avon and Poplar Islands Yacht Clubs, where he served in leadership roles. Bud loved being on his boat, painting, traveling and collecting beautiful art. Key West, FL, became his winter home as he loved all that Key West offered, including

walking to daily mass, serving as a Eucharistic minister, and his treasured role as a volunteer at the soup kitchen. His bike became his preferred method of transportation for all errands, and he loved being able to walk to galleries, music venues, and restaurants.

Whether working in his business or being retired in Oxford or Key West, Bud was known for the personal touches he took with his customers, family, and friends. He took great pride in remembering names and events; his sense of humor; and his ability to find the good in any person or situation. He loved his grandchildren, seeing the growth of their talents in the arts, athletics, and in their ability to banter with him. Finally, Bud was a friend to all, as he loved the ability to call friends daily just to check in, and to understand how he could help in any way.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Janice Murphy Gruber; his son, Christopher Gruber and his wife, Dana Gusmer Gruber; his grandchildren, Heidi Lussier Gruber, Timothy Baxter Gruber, Greta Elizabeth Gruber; his brother, John William Gruber, and his wife Joan Heiser Gruber; and Downey nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his first wife and Chris' mother, Verna Lussier Gruber; and his sister, Anne Crecencia (Nancy) Gruber Simaitis and her husband, Gervydas Simaitis.

A service will be held on Friday, October 21, 2016, at 11 AM, at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church at 1210 South Washington Street, Easton, MD 21601.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Basilica of Saint Mary Star of the Sea, 1010 Windsor Lane, Key West, FL 33040.

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernard F. Gruber*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Bernard F. Gruber*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Bernard F. Gruber*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Our condolences to Janice and all the family. We knew Bud through the Country Squire, where Bud was a wonderful friend and attentive to the wardrobe needs of my husband for many years. We were sad when the store was closed, especially since we no longer got to see Bud. Our Christmas cards over the years often produced a callback from Bud who made a point of following up on how we were all doing up here in the old "neighborhood". We are grateful for the friendship of Bud over the years.*

Sally and Perc Moser, Bryn Mawr, PA

sally moser - October 25, 2016 at 07:26 PM

KJ

“ Dear Janice, Chris, Dana, and family,

Rob, Michaela, Graeleigh, and I were all of us so sad to learn of Bud's passing. He has been such a kind neighbor and we will miss his always friendly greetings on our visits. As Graeleigh said when we told her, "Oxford just won't be the same without him."

*With deepest sympathy,
Kim Jones*

Kim Jones - October 20, 2016 at 01:58 PM

MH

“ My dear cousin Bud was a warm and loving person and it seemed to reflect in all that he did. I've known Bud since I was about 2-3, and every memory is a fond one.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Janice and Bud's wonderful family.

Love Matt and Janice Hart

Matt Hart - October 20, 2016 at 01:34 PM

LR

“ I worked with Bud many years ago at Lussier's Country Squire in Wayne, Pa. Aside from his devotion to Mr. and Mrs. Lussier, his wife, Verna, and his son Chris, I recall his enthusiasm for everything he did, be it managing the store, relating tales of the Devon Horse Show, or encouraging his staff.

When I saw his smiling picture I said to myself, "Yup! That's Bud!"

Leslie Rush

Leslie Rush - October 20, 2016 at 11:47 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bernard F. Gruber.*



October 19, 2016 at 02:26 PM



“ *Dear Janice, Chris and family, Please accept our sincere condolences. Bud was a true, Christian gentleman and a very special friend. We were "Hennershitz and Fenstermaker" I will always remember our early morning coffee together as we sat on the seawall overlooking the Pacific in Ixtapa Mexico We discussed many things and family came up often and he was very proud of his. I will always remember the pool volleyball games, bus trips to Transcones, gold foil on his front teeth, fake diamond ear rings and flowers for every lady in the condo on valentines day. In more recent years, our frequent phone calls " just to keep in touch" and lastly, the early morning coffee together in Key West two years ago. We will miss him dearly.*

*Ken and Barb Rasche
Rogers City, MI.*

Ken Rasche - October 18, 2016 at 06:30 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bernard F. Gruber.*



October 18, 2016 at 09:17 AM

AA

“ Our hearts are heavy at the loss of our dear friend Bud. Andy and Bud met at St Mary Star of the Sea in Key West many years ago at morning Mass and their friendship blossomed from there. Bud just enjoyed life and became an inspiration to us. A down to earth kind of guy he enjoyed all that life and Key West had to offer. Our deepest sympathy to Janice and all the family.

All our love and prayers,
Andy and Kathy Andersen
Canton, MA

Andy and Kathy Andersen - October 16, 2016 at 06:00 PM

JC

“ When I heard the news my heart literally stopped, he was such a wonderful human being and beautiful soul. When I went to visit him in the summers with my aunt he always asked what I wanted to eat before I got there. It doesn't seem like such a big deal but to me it meant everything. Although I didn't see him often I definitely thought of him often and I will truly miss you uncle bud.

Jaclyn Ceracchi - October 15, 2016 at 09:41 PM

JB

“ What a wonderful man Bud was. My family lived next door to Bud and his then wife, Verna for several years while growing up in Berwyn. Chris and I were classmates and our families often spent time as good neighbors do, sharing food and laughs. Bud was a classy and wonderful spirited man and we thought of him often after we moved away.

Chris...my condolences to you and your family during your time of loss. Prayers and warm hugs to you and yours.

Much love and blessings
JoAnna Lipps Brantley

joAnna Lipps Brantley - October 15, 2016 at 02:37 PM