



## Edward Matthews Schmidt

March 24, 1933 - April 30, 2024

Dr. Edward Matthews Schmidt, a dedicated research scientist and beloved family man, peacefully departed this world on April 30, 2024, at the age of 91. Born on March 24, 1933, in Illinois, Ed's life was a testament to intellect, dedication, and boundless love.

Ed shared over six decades of companionship with his beloved wife, Marilyn, and together they raised two sons, John and his wife Cindy of Milton, Delaware, and Paul and his wife Kathy of Johnson City, Tennessee. Ed found immeasurable joy in the laughter of his grandchildren, Corinne and Jonathan, who brought light to his world. He was preceded in death by his cherished grandson, Carl, and his beloved sister, Carlene.

Educated with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Northwestern University (1956), followed by a Master of Science (1957) and a Ph.D. (1965) from Purdue University, Ed embarked on a career that left an indelible mark on scientific inquiry. As a research scientist at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from February 1970 to May 1998, Ed's pioneering work in bioengineering, particularly in the field of visual prostheses, reshaped medical science. Even after retirement, his thirst for knowledge remained insatiable, evident in the numerous journal articles he continued to publish.

Beyond his professional pursuits, Ed found solace and joy in the simple

pleasures of life. An avid sailor, he delighted in navigating the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Additionally, Ed had a deep appreciation for music, collecting antique music boxes as a hobby, each melody a cherished memory. For the last decade of his life, Ed resided in the serene surroundings of Londonderry. In his final years, he found comfort and contentment in the embrace of Londonderry, where his legacy of love and wisdom will forever endure. Marilyn, his devoted wife, now resides in Londonderry, surrounded by cherished memories of their life together.

A life celebration in honor of Ed's remarkable life will be held on May 23rd from 2-4pm at the Londonderry Clubhouse. For those who wish to express their condolences or send flowers and notes, arrangements can be made through Fellows, Helfenbein & Newman Funeral Home, located at 200 South Harrison Street, Easton, MD 21601.

Following his wishes, Ed's remains will be taken to Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois, where the family will gather for a private memorial at a later date.

Edward Matthews Schmidt's legacy is one of love, compassion, and unwavering dedication to scientific inquiry. His brilliance, kindness, and insatiable curiosity will continue to inspire all who knew him. Though he has departed this world, his memory will remain a guiding light, leading us through the depths of grief toward the shores of remembrance and gratitude.

# Previous Events

## celebration of life

MAY **23**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Londonderry On The Tred Avon  
700 Port St #148  
Easton, MD 21601  
(410) 820-8732

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Edward Matthews Schmidt*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - August 19, 2024 at 08:32 AM



“ *I am really sorry that I just saw that Ed had passed away. I'm Martin Bak, who worked with or I should say worked for Ed for over 25 years at the National Institutes of Health. He was a very kind and extremely brilliant scientist. It was a great pleasure to be with him at the NIH, as well as spending time with him along the Chesapeake Bay.*

Martin Bak - February 25 at 11:30 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Edward Matthews Schmidt.*



May 22, 2024 at 07:25 PM

MY

“ My condolences to Marilyn, John and Cindy, and the rest of the Schmidt family. Such a nice quiet man. I met Ed and Marilyn years ago sailing on the Chesapeake and have considered them friends ever since.

Mary Yancey  
Easton, Md.

Mary Yancey - May 20, 2024 at 08:30 PM

LH

“ Love, your CG Friends HBC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Edward Matthews Schmidt.

Love, your CG Friends HBC - May 19, 2024 at 09:08 PM

LH

“ Love, your CG Friends HBC purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Edward Matthews Schmidt.



Love, your CG Friends HBC - May 19, 2024 at 09:08 PM

KD

“ Krista D. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Edward Matthews Schmidt.

Krista D. - May 12, 2024 at 07:41 PM

PS

“ 2 files added to the album Ed Schmidt



Paul Schmidt - May 08, 2024 at 10:36 AM

MR

“ Mary R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Edward Matthews Schmidt.

Mary R. - May 05, 2024 at 10:36 PM

BS

“ Bob S. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Edward Matthews Schmidt.



Bob S. - May 03, 2024 at 07:17 PM

HC

“ Heritage Baptist Church purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Edward Matthews Schmidt.



Heritage Baptist Church - May 03, 2024 at 03:35 PM