



Ernest Charles Dardis

February 4, 1937 - November 14, 2012

Ernest “Ernie” Charles Dardis of Easton, MD, passed away Wednesday November 14, 2012, at The Gardens at William Hill Manor in Easton. He was 75 years of age.

A loving Husband and Father, he is survived by his wife of 49 years, Diana Catherine Dardis of Easton; his sons, Kenneth and Keith Dardis; their wives, Cynthia and Wendy Dardis; and six grandchildren, Jack, Luke, Emily, Jake, Claire and Collin, all from Stamford, CT. He is also survived by his sisters, Joan Samsen of New York, NY, and Eileen McLaughlin of Brooklyn, NY; and brother, Robert Dardis of Wherever, FL.

Ernie was affectionately known by friends and family as “The Big E,” which was sometimes pronounced as “Biggy” by grandchildren in the midst of forming their language skills.

Born on February 4, 1937, in Brooklyn, NY, the son of Ernest Victor Dardis and Agnes Crowley, Ernie grew up in Bay Ridge and was an avid Brooklyn Dodgers fan and a regular fixture at Ebbets Field. He notoriously spilled coffee he was serving on a spectators lap when Bobby Thompson hit the shot heard round the world. He was a talented baseball player and grew up playing sandlot ball against the likes of Sandy Koufax, eventually earning a tryout at first base with the Dodgers. He was educated as a true Renaissance man in

the Jesuit tradition, earning his degree in economics and philosophy from Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, NJ. This education formed his personality as a thinking man of high integrity with steadfast belief in doing things in a fair manner.

After college, he enrolled at the United States Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI. He served his country with honor, was respected as leader of men, and earned his MBA from Michigan State University in the process. He retired as a Commander following a distinguished 20-year career consistent to his character and work ethic.

Following his naval career, his entrepreneurial spirit was displayed as he helped his partners build their company, Sea Wheels Corporation in Carlisle, PA, an innovator of transportation logistics. During this decade he lived in Mechanicsburg, PA, with his family.

Returning to public service, and with it a move back to the Washington, DC, area, he became an executive with the United States Postal Service where he became the Manager of Material Distribution - USA. In typical Ernie Dardis fashion, he stayed years longer and with deeper impact than originally contemplated.

Throughout his diverse career, Ernie always displayed a disciplined and focused work ethic and conducted himself with uncommon decency, kindness, and civility to those he encountered. As one colleague described him, "I have never met such an accomplished person without a boastful bone in his body."

As a result of his living many years in the Washington, DC, area, he developed a loyalty to the Washington Redskins and a tendency to escape to the nearby beaches of North Carolina's Outer Banks. It was on those beaches where E was often found covered with towel, hat and umbrella, surrounded by

his family - a book in one hand and a glass of wine in the other (but not too early).

There were plenty of fun times around the house and with his family, and many an evening was highlighted by the spontaneous dancing that resulted when a R&B tune would fill the air or a Jimmy Buffet song would test his lungs. Guests were always encouraged to have fun and were rarely disappointed.

Ernie was also the moderator of the nightly dinner “discussion” – an event that could be mistaken for a modern debate. There was no seat safe at the table for those who were unable to stake out their position, and then be able to support it. The topic and position you chose were less important than your ability to support it.

His views of the world were particularly interesting given his background living and traveling with our military in Japan and Europe. He had a deep love of his country and was an open-minded citizen of the World. He had no tolerance for bullies and oppressors and believed everyone should have a fair and equal opportunity.

In addition to his deep faith in God, he carries with him the love of his family and friends.

A funeral liturgy will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on December 1, 2012, at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 7906 Ocean Gateway, Easton, MD 21601.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America, 322 Eighth Avenue, 7th Floor, NY, NY 10001, (866) 232-8484).

Previous Events

Service

DEC 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church
1210 South Washington Street
Easton, MD

Tribute Wall



“ Ernest Charles Dardis

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Ernest Charles Dardis

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Ernest Charles Dardis

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ I served with Ernie years ago on USS Aludra AF-55 out of San Francisco. Impressive. My sympathy to his family and friends. I'll say prayers.

GCF

Captain US Navy (ret)

gcf - July 06, 2013 at 06:53 PM



“ Ernie hired me at the Postal Service in 1990, commencing a three-decade career that has been productive and rewarding. He was a friend to all and a mentor to many.

Frank Scheer

f_scheer@yahoo.com

Frank Scheer - November 20, 2012 at 09:00 AM

LG

“ When I first met Ernie at USPS Headquarters, he was very polite, good humored, and accepting of others. He was a gem of a person who made others comfortable. It was my pleasure to know him.

Les Griffith

Les Griffith - November 19, 2012 at 08:48 AM

JB

“ To Ernie's Family,
It's so hard to say something meaningful at a time like this. I know because I just lost my mother to dementia two months ago. The hole it leaves in your heart is inconsolable, but at the same time you are thankful for their eternal peace.

Ernie and I were colleagues at the Postal Service and I will be forever grateful for his kindness and friendship. He was one of the good guys, always considerate and seeking to compromise to move things forward. His opinion was valued and respected.

Please accept my sincerest condolences at his passing. You are all in my prayers.

*Juanda J. Barclay
jjbarclay13@gmail.com*

Juanda J Barclay - November 18, 2012 at 12:31 PM

EB

“ *Ellen Bode lit a candle in memory of Ernest Charles Dardis*



Ellen Bode - November 17, 2012 at 02:00 PM

EB

I read not long ago that the two hardest things to say in life are hello for the first time and goodbye for the last.

Ellen Bode - November 17, 2012 at 02:03 PM

MM

“ *I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Ernie for many years at the U.S. Postal Service in Washington, DC. He was one of the best. My heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with his family at this most difficult time.*



Marie Kettl Martinez - November 16, 2012 at 09:02 PM

LS

“ *Dear Family,
I would like to send my condolences. It can be extremely difficult to lose a loved one. That is why I wanted to share the hope found in the bible, the hope of the resurrection. Jesus stated at John 5:28,29 "The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will come out." And at Revelation 21:3,4 it states that there will be a time when "...death will be no more."
These scriptures give us hope for the future as respects to our dead loved ones. Those scriptures have brought comfort to me and I hope it does the same for your family.
With Love,
Loren*

Loren Stowers - November 16, 2012 at 06:11 AM

TW

I met Ernie at William Hill Manor this time last year when my mom was also there. Even with this disabilities, Ernie found a way to share with me his stories of baseball, Brooklyn, and some other fond memories. My sister and I enjoyed his company, my mom was fond of Ernie and used to share the treats we brought her with Ernie.

I was at William Hill a couple months ago and the nursing staff told me he was not doing well. That made me sad. I was there again today, just to vist, and I was told that Ernie had passed away. I felt that empty feeling in my heart again.

My thoughts and prayers are with Ernies family. Losing him is a loss to all of us who knew him. God bless you. May you be comforted by knowing how much we enjoyed the brief time we knew him.

Tom Walsh & Linda Walsh (my sister)

Thomas Walsh - December 16, 2012 at 08:02 PM