



## Ralph Gordon Graves

August 26, 1939 - December 25, 2020

(Ralph) Gordon Graves – Oxford, MD

Gordon (aka Gordo, G or G1), 81, peacefully slipped the surly bonds of earth on Christmas Day, December 25, 2020 with his beloved Phyllis at his side – in death as in life. In addition to his parents, Ralph and Peg Graves, he is predeceased by his siblings Susan Normoyle and Gene Graves. He is survived by his partner of 30 years, Phyllis Rambo; daughters Traci Paterson (Gary Beasley) and Deborah Graves; stepchildren Monique Rambo (Craig Saunders) and Christopher Rambo (Jennifer); eight grandchildren; many other family and friends; and his faithful companion, Cleo the cat, who sorely misses his warm lap.

Most of Gordon's professional career was at Rider College (NJ), where he especially loved his interactions with students. He was a tinkerer and loved to reason out how things worked. He enjoyed pursuing, repairing, and dealing in antique marine chronometers and clocks. Gordon and Phyllis moved to the Eastern Shore in 2002 and loved their life and friends in Oxford. Gordon was a long-time member and chair of Habitat Choptank Family Selection committee; board member and President of the Oxford Museum; volunteer at the Oxford Community Center; and ended nine plus years as an Oxford Commissioner in October of this year. He was also known as the master of the 'perfect' Perfect Manhattan! So, raise a glass and toast a witty, no BS guy who was always comfortable in his own skin, was a great listener, gave sage advice but never insisted you follow it, and was the first to laugh at himself. He

will be sorely missed but will live on in our hearts. Celebrate the love in your life and hug someone.

A memorial may be planned at a later date. The family would appreciate donations in Gordon's name be made to the Oxford Museum, Oxford Community Center or the American Cancer Society.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Gordon Graves*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Ralph Gordon Graves*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Ralph Gordon Graves*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *We were so saddened to learn of the passing of Gordon on Christmas Day. Gordon and his former wife, Pat, were members of our wedding party in Madison, NJ, in 1967 and, although we had not been in recent contact, we fondly remembered our shared memories while attending Baldwin-Wallace College, nka Baldwin Wallace University, 1962-1966. Every time we visited family in Maryland, we thought of Gordon and wished we had made contact with him. Our deepest condolences to Phyllis, and to his daughters, Traci and Debbie, and the rest of the family.*

*Bob and Barbara Paulson*

**Bob & Barbara Paulson** - February 03, 2021 at 12:14 AM

WG

“ Wendy And Ken Gibson lit a candle in memory of Ralph Gordon Graves



Wendy and Ken Gibson - January 10, 2021 at 03:47 PM

WG

*Our deepest condolences to Phyllis and all of Gordon's family. He will be missed for many wonderful things, including his dedication to improving Oxford and his gentle leadership. His everyday presence as he walked around town was something that was comforting to see. Gordon you were special. With Sympathy - Ken, Wendy, Ben and Santy Gibson*

Wendy and Ken Gibson - January 10, 2021 at 03:54 PM

KG

“ Ken, Wendy, Ben And Santy Gibson lit a candle in memory of Ralph Gordon Graves



Ken, Wendy, Ben and Santy Gibson - January 10, 2021 at 03:32 PM

KG

*Our deepest condolences to Phyllis and all of Gordon's family. He will be missed for many wonderful things, including his dedication to improving Oxford and his gentle leadership. His everyday presence as he walked around town was something that was comforting to see. Gordon you were special. With Sympathy - Ken, Wendy, Ben and Santy Gibson*

Ken, Wendy, Ben and Santy Gibson - January 10, 2021 at 03:45 PM

KS

“ I am so sad to hear of Mr Graves passing. I'm so very sorry for your loss.



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**Kathy Schlesner** - January 07, 2021 at 11:30 PM

JJ

“ Jimmy Jaramillo lit a candle in memory of Ralph Gordon Graves



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**Jimmy Jaramillo** - January 03, 2021 at 12:56 PM

CL

“ Carolyn Lane lit a candle in memory of Ralph Gordon Graves



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**Carolyn Lane** - December 28, 2020 at 04:14 PM