



## Seth Leonard Warfield

December 21, 1943 - April 16, 2022

Seth Leonard Warfield, 78, passed away on April 16, 2022, with his family at his side following complications after several heart surgeries.

Seth was born in Washington, DC, in the "old" Sibley Hospital, the youngest of three children of Anna and John (Jack) Warfield.

He attended his neighborhood public schools and was graduated from Western High School (now Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts). As a boy he participated in Boy Scouts, rising to the rank of Explorer.

Seth was a graduate of Lehigh University (class of '65) where he majored in Industrial Engineering and stayed to complete a master's degree in Management Science (aka operations research). While at Lehigh he was a member of the Delta Phi Fraternity where he served in several leadership roles, including House Manager. He also was a member of the service organization APO.

Following his graduate degree at Lehigh, Seth joined the Babcock & Wilcox Company at its headquarters in Barberton, OH. While in the Purchasing Department, he rewrote a long-outdated purchasing manual. Within three years he rose to Manager of Industrial and Marine Purchasing where he was responsible for buying large, engineered power plant equipment and finely

machined parts for the U. S. Navy's nuclear submarine reactors.

In 1969, his father had a serious heart attack and asked Seth to leave B&W to return to Washington to take the helm of the family business, Jack's Roofing Company. Willing to help and to take a detour in his career, Seth moved his family back to Maryland.

He had worked in the family business summers growing up, but was returning to manage, not to roof. His concern was that the business might be too small to support four families - his parents, his sister's and his brother's as well as his own and all the employees. His plan was to grow the family business by opening an adjunct roofing supply company, The Roof Center. Ultimately the supply business was incorporated as its own entity separate from the roofing business. Seth was president of both for a number of years.

Over time, The Roof Center grew to 24 locations in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and Texas. During those years, Seth served on several corporate advisory boards for large manufacturing companies including CertainTeed, TAMKO and GAF. He was an early member of American Wholesale Ltd, a national buying cooperative and was its president for several years. When The Roof Center was sold to the United Company in 1998, Seth was retained to continue running the business. The Roof Center was sold again in 2001, and Seth decided to retire.

A modest, gentle man, Seth enjoyed time with his family, often by the water. He and his family sailed on the Chesapeake Bay for many years and also escaped to their home in Southern Shores on the NC Outer Banks. There he was a member of Duck Woods Country Club for 30 years. Before retirement, Seth served on the Vestry and Finance Committee of Christ Church, Rockville. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Christ Episcopal School and for ten years on the Board of Governors at St. Andrew's Episcopal

School in Bethesda, MD.

His love of sailing drew him and his wife to move to Maryland's Eastern Shore where boating was their alternate waterfront home. Seth became active in Habitat for Humanity, helping to build houses with the "Thursday Crew" and to start the local Habitat Re-Store. He served on the Vestry, Finance and Endowment committees of Christ Church, Easton. Also at Christ Church, Seth participated in Kerygma and other Bible studies. He co-founded a men's non-fiction book group and was a member of the Talbot Investment Group. Ever the mariner, Seth belonged to the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club, the Tred Avon Yacht Club and the Poplar Islands Yacht Club and was an active volunteer at all three.

Seth is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years, Missy, his high school sweetheart; their two grown children, Heather Warfield Cooke (Ron) of Greenville, NC, and Peter Ives Warfield, MD (Amy) of Bethesda, MD; six cherished grandchildren, Ashley Cooke, Sydney Cooke, Emily Cooke, Hannah Warfield, Andrew Warfield, and Catherine Warfield; and his older sister, Anna Eletheer Warfield Decker (Keith). He was predeceased by both parents and an older brother, John T. Warfield, Jr.

A memorial service will be held at 11am on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at Christ Church, 111 S. Harrison St. Easton, MD. A private interment will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association, PO Box 105, Glenolden, PA 19036.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ Church  
111 Harrison St.  
Easton, MD 21601

# Tribute Wall



“ *Seth Leonard Warfield*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Seth Leonard Warfield*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Seth Leonard Warfield*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *MIKE COOK lit a candle in memory of Seth Leonard Warfield*



**MIKE COOK** - May 13, 2022 at 03:31 PM

LE

“ I am shocked to hear of Seth's passing. He and Missy were the most wonderful neighbors to us in Easton. Seth was especially kind to my sister, Karen Fuller, in the many months before her passing. I remember special times when Seth and Missy entertained us in their lovely home in Easton - parties on the patio, pool parties, and lovely times aboard Indigo. Seth was just the sweetest, kindest, coolest guy you could ever hope to know. He was a special, special person. Godspeed Seth. Love and Prayers to Missy and Family.

L. Ellington  
Florida

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Lisa Ellington - May 05, 2022 at 11:04 AM

TC

“ My memory of Seth is of a great neighbor, who opened his home to my kids one winter morning with fire trucks pulling into my driveway as I forgot to open the fireplace flue. I have never found a man more unselfish in a family business, which is extremely noble. That being said, it was also the simple things that amazed. Such his skills with tools as he seemed to be able to fix most anything. A wonderful man who we are lucky to have had in our life. Rest In Peace my friend.

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Tom Clark - May 04, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Seth Leonard Warfield.



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May 04, 2022 at 11:45 AM

JW

“ Seth was the best. A true gentleman and a credit to the industry. I'm sure I speak for the all of the roofing contractors in the area.

*Jack Wagner*

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**Jack Wagner** - May 03, 2022 at 03:27 PM

BM

“ Dear Missy and family,  
Our deepest sympathy to you in this difficult time. Seth was one of the kindest men we have had the pleasure to know. We will miss him greatly. Our hearts go out to you. We will remember the many kindnesses Seth showed us over the years. He will Rest In Peace forever and ever.

*Love,  
Bill and Barbara Millar*

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**Bill Millar** - May 03, 2022 at 02:22 PM

JM

“ Seth will be profoundly missed by all who knew him. The highlight of my career in the building materials industry was when Seth invited me into The Roof Center family. And, he truly did make it a family – a group of people who not only worked together but cared about each other. He modeled hard work, dedication, and integrity; and we all learned from (and strived to be like) him. He was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word, and this world is a better place because he thoughtfully shared his time, talent, and vision.

*Gail and I send love and deepest sympathy to lovely Missy and the whole Warfield family. We hold you in our hearts and promise that Seth will never be forgotten.*

*Jim Murray*

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**Jim Murray** - May 02, 2022 at 03:27 PM

RS

“ *Ron Shortall lit a candle in memory of Seth Leonard Warfield*



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**Ron Shortall** - April 26, 2022 at 12:21 PM

DT

“ *Seth was one of the kindest, sincere and quality individuals I have ever known.*

*As a young man running a much smaller company in the roofing distribution business, I vividly remember my first meeting with American Wholesale and spending a beautiful summer afternoon on a sailboat on the Delaware Bay just talking with Seth just talking about life in general and getting his much needed advice on how to run a quality business and build it to be dominant in the market by providing impeccable customer service.*

*He was one of the very few men who was universally respected by everyone who knew him - including his employees and suppliers.*

*Seth will be greatly missed by all the people he touched throughout his life.*

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**Don Tomeny** - April 26, 2022 at 08:31 AM

JC

“ *Jim Catron sent a virtual gift in memory of Seth Leonard Warfield*



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**Jim Catron** - April 24, 2022 at 03:55 PM

MK

“ *To Missy and family, we were very very, saddened and surprised to hear of Leonards passing, please except our condolences and prayers for your loss.*

*I meet Leonard in the early 1970's when you opened The Roof Center , we did a lot of business together and I always felt you and Leonard as a friend,*

*May he Rest In Peace in arms of our lord.*

*We will cherish the memories forever and he will be missed by many people .*

*May God bless you and your family*

*Mike and Karen King*

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**mike king** - April 23, 2022 at 12:14 PM

LC

“ *Dear Missy and family,*

*We are saddened to learn of Seth's illness and passing. He was a fine gentleman . You two made the loveliest of couples. We always admired you at the numerous Galas we all attended in days gone by. May you find peace and consolation in your memories.*

*Warmly,*

*Steve and Lin Clineburg*

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**lin clineburg** - April 22, 2022 at 08:35 AM

TM

“ Seth was such a gentle soul with such hidden depths. What was hidden was his love for Missy. Seth - just know we will be looking after your Missy and holding your memory so very precious. Trish & John Malin

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**Trish Malin** - April 21, 2022 at 02:52 PM

NS

“ Nancy Smith lit a candle in memory of Seth Leonard Warfield



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**Nancy Smith** - April 20, 2022 at 05:28 PM