

# HOBART WILSON KRANER



HOBART WILSON KRANER died peacefully in his home in Essex, Connecticut, on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, just days before his 84<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was greatly loved by his family and friends, leaving a legacy of his generous and loving spirit. Hobie was an accomplished scientist, but loved his family most of all. He leaves his wife of 60 years, Carol Bostock Kraner, of Essex, CT, and Murrells Inlet, SC, and his children Keith Kraner, of Glastonbury, CT, Neil Kraner of Granby, CT, Jeffrey Kraner, of Middletown, CT, and Jennifer Kraner, of Wilmington, NC, as well as their spouses

Anne Kraner, Kim Kraner, Deborah Kraner and Tony Chambers. Hobie also leaves eight beloved grandchildren: James Kraner, Jason Kraner, Timothy Kraner, Nathan Kraner, Emma Kraner, Lily Kraner, Haley France and Jackson France.

Hobie grew up in Bethlehem, PA, and developed his life-long love of sailing and sailboat racing during summers on the Delaware River. He competed several times in the Comet class nationals in a boat he had built himself, once with his new bride as crew. He always had a boat to sail or race, and made sure to pass his passion along to his kids and grandkids too. He always seemed to have a boat building or repair project going on, and was known to fiberglass just about anything. Hobie attended MIT as an undergraduate, initially for naval architecture program, but his interests quickly led him to Physics. He completed his doctoral degree in Physics at MIT and worked as a post-graduate researcher there before moving to Brookhaven National Laboratory, where he stayed for the remainder of his career. His work involved building detectors used in particle accelerator experiments, including at the supercollider at CERN in Switzerland. He was a Fellow of the IEEE and earned many other distinctions.

Hobie valued civic engagement. He was actively involved in his church and community, especially after retirement, when he worked passionately on environmental protection initiatives in Murrells Inlet, SC. He encouraged his children not only to seek professional success but also to make time for strong family bonds, activities and events. When their kids were younger, Hobie and Carol took the entire family for annual month-long camping trips all over the western states. He loved to tell the story of coming down Wolfcreek Pass in the old VW Bus with camper in tow, and the family hold those trips as special memories. Nothing gave him more joy than large family gatherings.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the church steeple fund in his name at The First Congregational Church of Essex, CT, Methodist Hill, Essex, CT, 06426.