



## Grant Richard Helliwell

December 22, 2023

With loving sadness we announce the peaceful passing of Grant Helliwell in Port Perry on December 22, 2023 in his 95th year. Grant was predeceased earlier this year by Ruth, his wife of more than 70 years. Grant was dear father of Sue Taylor (Garry), Peggy Erlandson (Doug), Cindy Bartle (Geoff), and Bob Helliwell (Tracey). He was the endeared “Grampa” to Carrie, Jenny, Paula, Stacey, Kim, Andrew, Jamie, PJ, Thomas, and Beth; and his 11 great-grandchildren. Grant was predeceased by his older siblings Paul, Reg, Jean, Mary and Hildegard.

Born in Sydenham Ont in 1929, Grant was a gentle, loving and generous man. He always had a hug for anyone and everyone. Graduating from Queen’s in 1951, he married his sweetheart Ruthie the following year. Raising their four children in Etobicoke, Grant was a small business entrepreneur. Family and friends remember making sponges, warehouse go-karting, and years of Mitchell Maintenance bucket trucks. Ruth and Grant had the best of friends with the “Merrygale Nifty Niners”, curling in the winter, and his Polar Bear Hunt Club was an annual highlight.

However, Grant’s passion was for his family and his beloved cottage at Balsam Lake. From the first sounds of the developer’s chainsaws in 1963, there was the Balsam Lake Sailing Club, his Cougar catamaran, the pig roasts, his contraptions from ziplines to ornithopters, Caribbean music with buckets of rum punch, washing dishes to “Whistling Jack”, and the gleeful squeals of “Grampa in the Lake” when he donned his Hawaiian dress. For

Grant, life was lovely.

Gratitude goes out to the staff at West Shore Retirement Village for their many years of care for both Ruth and Grant.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.