



James Edward Cheney

December 21, 1928 - January 25, 2018

James E. Cheney, aged 89 of Worthington, Ohio died January 25, 2018 after a short illness. He was born in Schenectady, New York on December 21, 1928, the second son of Samuel H. and Anastasia H. (Donovan) Cheney. He is a graduate of Siena College in Loudenville, NY. In 1954 he was a member of a scientific team at the General Electric Research Laboratory that discovered how to transform, at great heat and pressure, ordinary carbon into diamonds. This discovery created a new industry. Mr Cheney followed that discovery out into industry and helped establish the first pilot plant and then the first factory to produce man-made diamonds for industry. He went on to set up or help set up operations in Ireland, France, and Spain. He held various positions in engineering and manufacturing and managed several manufacturing operations. He retired in 1989 but continued to work as an ultra-high pressure consultant for several years. He served communities where he lived through the years as a 4-H leader, Explorer Scout leader, as a volunteer fireman, was chairman of a local library board, served several years as a member of a local school board, and was a charter member of the Scotia Lions Club.

After retirement, he and his wife, Shirley hit the road for a few years dragging a trailer throughout North America up to Alaska and down into Mexico.

Afterwards he occupied himself with his family's genealogy and developing avian friendly and efficient wind turbines. He was also pretty handy with a hammer and saw.

He was known for and will be remembered for his kindness, generosity, devotion to his friends, and steadfast love for his family near and far. He died two days short of the sixty-seventh anniversary of the wedding to the love of his life, Shirley, who misses him terribly. He was predeceased by his brother, Samuel H. Jr. of Rockport, MA and his sister Mary Lou Weickert of Rockford, IL. He is survived by his wife of sixty-seven years, Shirley (Olson) Cheney, sons, Stephen P. (Paula) of Yellow Springs, Ohio, Andrew D. (Lori) of Columbus, Ohio and his daughter Anne K. Rector (Robert Felter) of Gahanna, Ohio. Also four grandchildren Andrew E. (Taylor) of Flagstaff, AZ, Maxwell J. of Golden, CO., Andrew D. Jr. of California, MD, and Samantha N. of California, MD. Memorial contributions may be sent to Worthington Public Library, 820 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085. A Memorial Service will be announced at a later date.

He leaves this message-

To my friends and family, I send you word from the quiet side of death- I would ask that you mourn me only 'til the flowers wilt-but remember me, in your hearts, until the rocks turn to dust. My life flows endlessly on now-in you.

Tribute Wall



“ *James Edward Cheney*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *dear Shirley and family, we are saddened to hear of jim's passing. I worked with jim at ge since 1967. He will be remembered by all as a wonderful and caring person. jack/sally spanitz.*

jack spanitz - February 09, 2018 at 01:48 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Jim. I worked with him for many years at GE and came to know Jim as a kind and intelligent colleague. He made such a positive and monumental contribution to the industry! He will be missed greatly by all his friends and colleagues.*

Terry M. Kane - February 05, 2018 at 10:14 AM



“ *Joe & Barb Morris purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James Edward Cheney.*



Joe & Barb Morris - February 05, 2018 at 07:06 AM

JL

“ *Judith Lutz lit a candle in memory of James Edward Cheney*



Judith Lutz - February 02, 2018 at 05:08 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Edward Cheney.*



February 01, 2018 at 08:35 PM

BR

“ *We are so very sorry to hear of Jim's death. It is the saddest thing to lose our wonderful uncle. I wish there were words that could give comfort. He was fun, smart, loving, good and strong. And we loved him. And we love you, his wonderful family.*
Beth Cheney Roenker

Beth Roenker - February 01, 2018 at 04:30 PM



“ *Cathy McKenna sent a virtual gift in memory of James Edward Cheney*



Cathy McKenna - February 01, 2018 at 11:34 AM