

Richard B. Danehy of Santa Barbara, 1940-2024



Richard 'Dick' Bernard Danehy, Sr.

Richard "Dick" Bernard Danehy, Sr. passed away peacefully at home on Nov. 25, 2024, with his loving wife Janet by his side. He was 84 years old.

Dick was born in Rochester, New York, to Dr. Cornelius and Mrs. Frances Danehy as the sixth of six children. He graduated from Aquinas Institute and went on to earn his B.B.A. from St. John Fisher University both in Rochester.

While in college, he met his wife of 61 years, Janet. They married just before Dick began his studies for a J.D. degree at Syracuse University. During this time, Richard, Jr. was born.

After graduation it was on to Norwich, New York, where second son William was born. In Norwich, Dick was a confidential law clerk for a year to a New York Supreme Court justice.

Dick and Janet enjoyed living in several regions of the country from the Northeast, to Georgia in the South, the Kansas City area in the Midwest, and finally California.

Dick spent his working years in personnel, industrial relations and human resources with several corporations: SCM, Sybron, McKesson and C.J. Patterson, a Kansas City company. In Overland Park, Kansas, he was vice president of the Higher Education Assistance Management Corp.

After a visit to San Diego for their 25th wedding anniversary, Dick and Janet couldn't resist a move to Rancho Bernardo, California, where Dick became employed as director of Human Resources at National Steel and Shipbuilding . But then, a little trip up to Santa Barbara made them decide this was where they wanted to be.

By then Dick had formed Fraser Richards Consulting, specializing in human resource policies and practices, arbitration and expert witness testimony. He thoroughly enjoyed this and having his own business until his retirement.

He was a rock for so many of us family and friends, always willing to help sort out a problem.

When his sons were growing up, he was enthusiastically involved with them, and their Boy Scout activities. He assisted not only his sons, but their scout masters as well.

Dick and Janet loved to travel, and enjoyed several trips to Ireland and Scotland. He worked tirelessly to gather information to become an Irish citizen and thus hold dual citizenship.

The couple loved life in Santa Barbara. It was great to be near the ocean. They became active in several civic and social organizations, and met so many wonderful people. It proved to be a great choice.

Dick's hobby was gardening, especially vegetables. As an Irishman he grew delicious potatoes which he pan fried to perfection. We will miss them.

Dick is survived by his wife Janet; sons Richard, Jr. and William (Anita); granddaughters Mary and Nora; as well as many nieces and nephews who kept in touch with him.

The family wishes to thank Hospice of Santa Barbara for their outstanding care and support during a very difficult time.