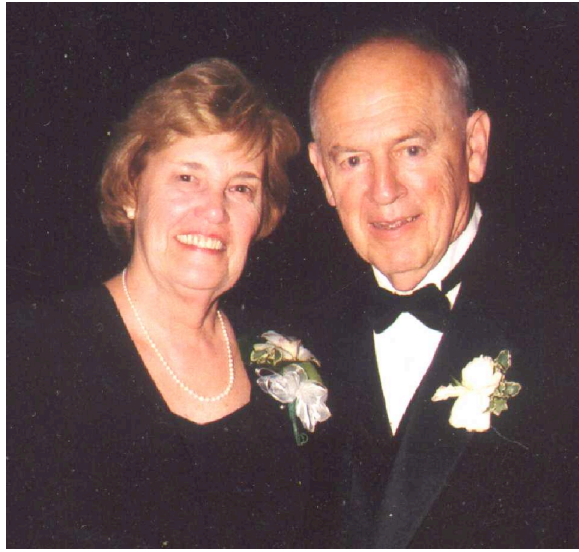


# The Lucke Family Newsletter

Spring 2005

Volume XI, Number 1



Anne & Bob Magee

This issue is dedicated to our cousin, Bob Magee, who passed away on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Bob was the epitome of Family Man, not only for his own immediate Magee clan, and for the Lucke Family, but also for everybody who was fortunate enough to know him. He was a treasured friend for so many of us!

Bob and his wife Anne attended every Lucke Family picnic, beginning in 1978, always bringing a "contingent" of family members along. One of the scenes that was played out at every picnic was Rita showing anyone and everyone the Family Photo Album, which she had so lovingly created. Fortunately we still have that album which was the source of some of the pictures on the following pages. Now Rita and Bob, along with so many others are enjoying memories and looking fondly down at us.

We have included excerpts from the official Obituary, a Eulogy by Bob's son Jim and a remembrance by his granddaughter Lauren, all of which show how much Bob loved and was loved. But there are so many more stories; if you have any that you would like to share, please send them to the Editor and I will pass them on to Bob's family.

## Obituary

**ROBERT HURLEY MAGEE** age 76 of Westport, CT formerly of Stamford, peacefully at his home on January 30, 2005 after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He was the beloved husband of Anne O'Brien Magee. He was born in Mount Vernon, NY on March 26, 1928 and was the son of the late Edwin W and Margaret Magee.

He resided in Stamford for 45 years before moving to Westport. He graduated from Fordham Preparatory School in 1945 and received his BBA in Economics from Iona College in 1950. He served as a Corporal in the US Army Signal Corps during the Korean War from 1950-1952 and served in the Army Reserve until 1957. He obtained his MBA in Food Distribution from Michigan State University in 1955. He worked for the Grand Union Company for twenty years. He started the family business Peter's Bridge Market in 1972, and Peter's Weston Market in 1974 and considered himself very fortunate to be able to work with his family until retiring in 2003. He was a sports enthusiast as a participant and a fan. He played baseball on the Iona College Varsity Baseball Team and coached the Our Lady Star of the Sea School Girls' Softball and Basketball teams. He was a member of the Mount Vernon, NY Volunteer Fire Department for many years. He also served on numerous boards including the Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Advisory Board, the Associated Foods Distributors and the Allied Food Grocers Co-op boards.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, February 3rd at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Stamford. Burial was at Assumption Cemetery.

## Eulogy

Good morning. For those of you who don't know me, I'm Bob's youngest son Jim, #6 in the rotation. I would like to thank each and every one of you for being here today and for your support over these last few days. Your generosity has been overwhelming and much appreciated by us all. Looking out over the church at the faces of so many of Dads friends, relatives, acquaintances, and past employees gives us the strength to carry on with our lives knowing that Dad touched so many people in such a positive way.

Quite simply, if you met him once, or you met him a hundred times - he was the same man. Diligent hard-working, thoughtful, kind - no hubris - just a great guy.

Last Sunday morning, the phone call came from Mom- Dad needs help. I hopped into my Jeep; fired up the engine and started on my 15-minute ride to Mom and Dad's house. As chance would have it, the CD playing was "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road" - the song "Funeral for a Friend". My mind started to drift off to another time - Ft Meyers Beach Florida - The Pink Shell Cottages. Dan Ryan, Dennis McGinnity, Joe Fahey and Dad - grilling some burgers on the Gulf of Mexico. Enjoying some beers, discussing politics, sports, religion, or whatever - Dad was at ease. He was with good friends, with his family. Life could not have been better. He always loved Ft Meyers Beach; he came back re-energized for another year of work at Peter's Bridge Market. Poor Bob and Joe really had to hustle when he returned.

Work was an extension of his family life - not an interruption. All ten of us - even Mom for a short time - worked at the stores for many wonderful years. His employees were his friends, no matter what age or gender, everybody was treated the same - with respect, deference and a kind word always. He listened to their life experiences as if theirs was the only story. I can say with certainty that each one of us considered him our very best friend.

At all stages of our lives, no matter who we brought to the house, Dad would greet them as family. He had the ease of a talk show host while at the same time a seriousness of purpose - a man to be admired, listened to and respected. He was not gregarious; he was welcoming, never boastful about his accomplishments, only optimistic about tomorrow's goals. He was a man of few words, but always knew just what to say - unique to each one of us. Whether it was telling one of us that we were being too serious, or not serious enough - whatever it was, he would know what we were thinking. He related to each of his 21 Grandchildren in the same manner.

Many of you have remarked on what an easy man Dad was to talk to - that's because, as I said earlier, he was the best listener you would ever encounter - believe me, he heard a lot over the years from the ten of us!

When Dad was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, he showed his true character. He never

complained, never worried about himself, but instead worried about his Family; particularly Mom, and the effect his illness had on our lives, especially towards the end. He never wanted to be a burden - and he wasn't. Caring for our father was a privilege to all of us. The disease may have taken over his body, but he did not allow it to take over his life. His life did not shut down. He lived for his family. He carried his cross with strength, dignity, and silent acceptance. His comment to Mom when he was first diagnosed was "As bad as it is, it could be worse."

One of the greatest gifts my sisters, brothers and I have received from our Dad, is the example he and my mother set for us; as parents, as partners, as Christians, as people who practiced what they preached. Our hope is that we can honor his memory by following their example in our own lives, as we raise our own children.

All good daydreams come to an end, and mine did. I pulled into Mom and Dad's driveway and saw my sister Katie walking toward the door - my brother-in-law Dave was already inside, and two police cruisers were in the driveway. Mom's first words to me were "Jim your Buddy's gone." I knew Dad was not gone; he was released from his suffering. He left this world the way he lived his life, with quiet, humble dignity.

The words echoed in my ears "Oh I've finally decided my future lies, Beyond the Yellow Brick Road".

### ***Pop***

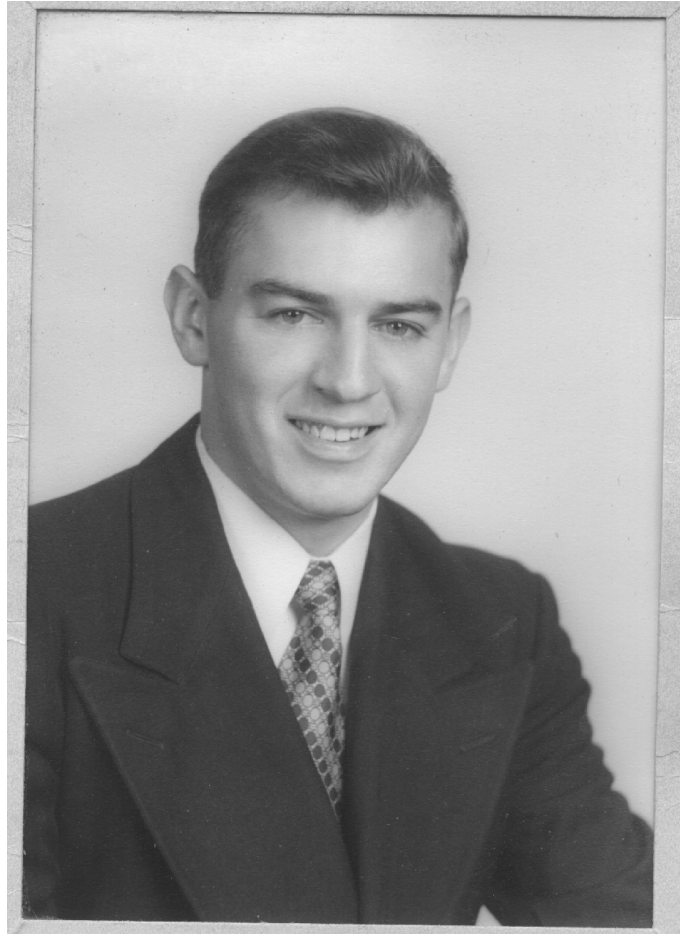
Oh, how I love Pop. He was a great guy and he was the humor of the family. Everyone misses him and were upset that they barely got to see him, but I was lucky because I saw him the day before he passed away. It will sure be different without Pop, we won't hear him sing, he won't be reading the paper every morning about all his grandkids and he won't be there to take out his little girls, Maggie and Casey. We will all miss all of those lovely things and the stories he used to tell us, but I will especially remember the story he told about Whitey Ford. It's just too bad he didn't last for his 77<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 26<sup>th</sup>. The Superbowl won't be the same without Pop watching it with us. Even though we will miss him, we must understand that he is pain-free, and is in heaven with Uncle Bobby.

-Lauren Romano, age 12 (#7 Annemarie's Daughter)

Robert Hurley Magee



First Communion



Graduation from Iona College 1950



Betty, Bob & Edwin (about 1936)



Billy McGill (left) and Bob 1937



Lucke Family Picnic 1978  
 Annmarie, Peg, Maura, Anne, Bob, Joe Sr, Joe Jr, Allie,  
 Jim, Bobby, Patti, Katie and (front) Liz & Eileen



Lucke Family Picnic 1991  
 Bob, Anne, Rita Muller, Ginnie Hoerning, Lloyd Campbell  
 Peg, Tim Jr, Annmarie, Kelly, Liz, Eileen, Bob Campbell



Joe, Peg, Patti, Bob, Annmarie, Liz, Anne, Eileen, Katie, Jim, Maura at Liz's Wedding 2000

Bob and Anne's children are Joseph Magee and Annmarie Romano of Westport CT; Patricia Carlucci, Peggy Smith, Kathleen Cook and Elizabeth Malloy of Stamford CT; Maura Chasen of Fairfield CT; James Magee of Weston CT; and Eileen Moran of Tiverton, RI. They have 21 grandchildren: Sarah Magee; Joseph Jr, Brien, and Christopher Magee; Kimberly, Christine, Ronald Jr and Steven Carlucci, Audrey and Julie Chasen; Emma Smith, Anna, Kristin, and Claire Magee; Timothy Jr, Kelly, and Lauren Romano; Thomas and Nicole Cook; Callie Moran and Liam Malloy. Bob is survived by his sister Elizabeth Magee Connelly and his brother James V Magee. Bob's son, Robert M Magee and brother, Edwin W Magee, predeceased him.