



Joseph H. Cobrain

January 26, 2020

Joseph Hugh Cobrain of West Hartford passed away peacefully on January 26th, 2020. He was born February 11th, 1925 in New York City, the only child of Joseph and Miriam (Pollak) Cobrain. He was a graduate of The Gunnery, Washington CT, class of 1943 and of Yale University, class of 1950. He entered the Army Air Force in September, 1943 and was honorably discharged in March 1946, after serving in France.

Hugh married the love of his life, Ann Wadhams, in June, 1947 and they lived in Hamden, CT while he attended Yale and then worked at a stock brokerage firm. They moved to West Hartford in 1951 and he worked at The Travelers Insurance Company for over 33 years in the Securities Department, retiring as a Second Vice President.

A member of the First Church of Christ, Congregational in West Hartford, Hugh served on the Investment Committee there from 1967-2003. He also served on the Investment Advisory Committee of the Connecticut Institute for the Blind for many years. As a member of the Yale Club of Hartford, Hugh served on the Alumni Schools Committee interviewing prospective students. He was a member of Farmington Country Club and following retirement he joined the Old Guard. Also, Hugh was a 50-year member of the Appalachian Mountain Club and after retirement, joined its Trails Committee maintaining a 3 ½ mile section of trail in Connecticut.

Over the years, he loved playing tennis and paddle tennis, family camping, hiking, and annual backpacking trips to the White Mountains. He also enjoyed spending time at their vacation home in New Hampshire.

Most important of all was time spent with his family. He is survived by his wife, Ann and three children: Sally Cobrain (Pat Cancelli), Candace Doersch (Robert Doersch) and David Wadhams Cobrain (Valerie Valentine). He also leaves two grandchildren: Karen Doersch, MD/PhD and Carl Doersch, PhD.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Saturday, February 1 from 2-3 PM at The McAuley, 275 Steele Road, West Hartford. Burial will be private at the family's convenience. For online condolences please visit www.taylorandmodeen.com

Events

FEB **Life Celebration and Reception** 02:00PM - 03:00PM

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The McAuley

275 Steele Road, West Hartford, CT, US, 06117

Comments



“ Cobrain Family: Hugh was one of the "good guys", and one of the senior statesmen of the AMC Trails Committee. Hugh always brought humor and a cheerful outlook to our oftentimes tedious meetings! I "inherited" the maintenance of the Undermountain Trail from Hugh, which to me, was a great honor, as if the sword had been handed off! Hugh belongs to the group of CT Appalachian Trail icons. I'm sure he's joined Norm, Dick, Birge, and Doug maintaining the paths up in Heaven. Dave Boone,AMC-CT Appalachian Trail Committee.

David Boone - January 30 at 09:52 AM



“ Hugh was a West Hartford neighbor for many years. Over many years we were partners and/ or opponents on either the tennis court or the platform tennis court. I will always remember his ever present smile, matched with his good sense of humor. He enjoyed his many years of membership and service with The Old Guard. A true gentleman. My condolences to Ann and the entire Cobrain family.



Tew DuBois - January 30 at 08:31 AM



“ Family: Hugh was a wonderful person! I am so sorry for your loss. He introduced me to the Old Guard, got me into the Hartford Tennis Club, and even gave me my first Sake at our annual Christmas Tennis Tournament.
Ernest Zike

Ernest Zike - January 30 at 07:46 AM



“ Ted Cowles: Hugh was a special person to me. He introduced me to the AMC in '86 and enjoyed more than 25 years of volunteer service . In the last five years I drove Hugh to monthly meetings of AMC. I am most sorry to hear of Hugh's passing.

Ted Cowles - January 30 at 11:18 AM