



## Eugene Herr Gardner

July 16, 2016

Eugene Herr Gardner, 80, founder of the Investment Advisor Gardner Russo & Gardner LLC, died July 16, 2016 at his home from complications of multiple myeloma diagnosed in 2010. He was a descendant of Hans Herr, with his roots in Lancaster County dating back to 1709.

Born in Lancaster, he was the son of Paul and Anna Miriam Herr Gardner. Gene and his wife, Anne Downey Gardner, were married for 53 years.

In 2014 he became Member Emeritus of the firm he started in 1968 as Gardner Investments. Before starting his own firm he worked for legendary investor William Ruane at Kidder Peabody in NYC and remained closely associated with the firm Ruane Cunniff and Goldfarb LLC for most of his professional life.

After several years at Kidder Peabody he returned to Lancaster and established his Investment Advisory firm as a sole proprietorship, being joined in partnership by Thomas A. Russo and Gene's son, Eugene H. Gardner, Jr., in 1989 and 1999 respectively.

He attended Lancaster Country Day School and was a graduate of Groton School in Groton Massachusetts. He attained his BA degree from Harvard College in 1958 and earned his MBA from Harvard Business School in 1961.

He was a Board Member of Fulton Bank and Fulton Financial Corporation.

He was a member and Treasurer of Highland Presbyterian Church. He was Chairman of the Board of the James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland. He was President of the Board of Trustees of Lancaster Country Day School, and a Trustee of Franklin and Marshall College. He was President of the Board of Directors of the Lancaster Country Club.

His memberships included the Lancaster Country Club, The Hamilton Club of Lancaster, and Pine Valley Golf Club.

Gene was a dedicated numismatist, inducted into the Liberty Seated Coin Collector Hall of Fame in 2014, and a tournament bridge player. His other interests included golf, opera, languages, wine, and travel -- especially to Italy, Santa Fe, Palm Beach, and Snowmass, and anywhere else his children and grandchildren are gathered and a gaming table is at hand.

In addition to his wife he is survived by a son, Eugene H. Gardner, Jr. (wife Bernadette Milner and children Caroline Curtin, Victoria Eloyse, Abigail Downey, and Grace Wakefield) of Lancaster, and a daughter, Dr. Victoria Curtin Gardner Coates (husband George G. H. Coates, Jr. and children Anne Gardner and George Gowen Hood III) of Philadelphia. His brother Paul Gardner, Jr. lives in Hartford Connecticut.

His family wishes to gratefully acknowledge Gene's exceptional care at the Ann B. Barshinger Cancer Center Institute under the skillful and caring direction of Dr. Randall Oyer and his staff. Also involved in Gene's care was Dr. Daniel Vogl at Penn Medical...this resulted in an outstanding team effort that led to six full years of activities, interests, fellowship, and family time for Gene. The ICU of Lancaster General Hospital and Hospice of Lancaster County embraced him and his family with extraordinary care during the last

weeks of his life.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a memorial service for Gene on Friday, July 22 at Highland Presbyterian Church, 500 East Roseville Road, Lancaster. The family will greet beginning at 9:30 a.m. and the service will begin at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to memorialize Gene are invited to support these organizations that were dear to his heart: Bright Side Baptist Church (c/o Dr. Louis Butcher, 515 Hershey Avenue, Lancaster PA 17603); the Ann B. Barshinger Cancer Institute Fund (2102 Harrisburg Avenue, Lancaster PA 17601), and The Fulton Opera House (12 North Prince Street, Lancaster PA 17602).

Communication to the family may be directed to Box 328, Bausman PA 17504.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 22. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Highland Presbyterian Church  
500 East Roseville Road  
Lancaster, PA

## Memorial Service

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Highland Presbyterian Church  
500 East Roseville Road  
Lancaster, PA

# Tribute Wall



“ Eugene Herr Gardner

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ Sending prayers and condolences to the family and dear friends of this phenomenal man.  
His legacy will blaze on in uncounatble ways.  
Sarah Hamady

Sarah Hamady - July 29, 2016 at 11:51 AM



“ I was saddened to hear the news of Gene's passing. My first thoughts on hearing this were that he was such a gentleman and always so kind. And I recalled a story he told me decades ago when Joanne and I were living on Madison Avenue and 81st Street in Manhattan. He said that he lived close by when he first moved to New York as a young man-- at 78th and Madison, I believe-- in a spacious pre-war apartment, which he sublet with some other young fellows for all of \$40 a month or some such low number from the great movie actress Patricia Neal. Gene and I saw each other often albeit briefly at many Berkshire Hathaway annual shareholder meetings. (Gene was a distinguished member of the Omaha Lounge Suit Society.) At one time we were both avid skiers and tentatively planned to ski together at Snowmass, but regretfully never did.

-- Chris Stavrou

Chris Stavrou - July 22, 2016 at 12:03 PM

BE

“ Jennifer and I, and all of Jethro's staff are saddened by Gene's passing. Gene was always so nice and kind to us and everybody thought very highly of him. I know that my father in law, Jim Sperry, thought a lot of Gene. We will miss seeing him. Over the past months many people asked me if I knew how Gene was doing. I guess they knew that he was an "Original Jethro's Regular" and I might have some info on his health. I always told them that he came in and enjoyed himself the best he could. He was a gracious gentleman. We all wish you peace and strength during these times. Know that Gene will be missed by many people. Best thoughts for you. Bob Esbenshade

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**bob esbenshade** - July 19, 2016 at 03:21 PM

RF

“ Dear family of Eugene Herr Gardner,

Gene and I were formmates at Groton School in the early fifties. Impressive is how well you can grasp the essence of someone by spending five years together in the classroom, on the playing fields, at table, and in the dorms. From the beginning one trait in Gene stood out: his integrity. You knew, even if you didn't think about it, that throughout his life this integrity would inform all his work and loves. From early adolescence on I have deeply respected him. To all of you I offer my condolences at your profound loss.

Sincerely, Rick Ford

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**Richard Q. Ford** - July 19, 2016 at 02:20 PM

TK

“ Anne,

*I am so very sorry for your loss. I remember Gene as a kind, thoughtful, interesting, interested and ever so smart man. His quiet presence filled the room and your love of and respect for each other was ever apparent. You each have so many interests, but first and foremost is your family. I take comfort in knowing that you will be surrounded by their love.*

*Gene played a prominent role in our community and he will be missed.*

*Know that I send my love and caring.*

*Timi*

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**Timi Kirchner** - July 18, 2016 at 09:03 AM

MM

*Karen and I, and all in the Mersky family, are saddened by the loss of Gene Gardner from our midst. Gene had a profound influence on the LCDS community, and I count myself as being incredibly fortunate to have spend time with Anne and Gene throughout my tenure as Head of School at LCDS. Gene was a wonderful historian of the School and community, and he taught me well the mores of society in Lancaster. The community and School will miss him dearly, and we have all lost a wonderful individual from our lives and from our community. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Gardner family at this time. Please know that the Merskys send their prayers and blessings to all in the Gardner family.*

*Karen and Mike Mersky  
7/20/16*

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**Mike Mersky** - July 20, 2016 at 11:19 AM

VB

*Marcy and I were saddened to hear of Gene's passing. Anne, may you reminisce frequently and with comfort regarding your lives together. Gene was a longtime friend to us at Lancaster Neuroscience and Spine Associates as well as a familiar face at LCC.*

*Ward and Marcy Barr  
7/27/16*

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**V. Ward and Marcia Barr** - July 27, 2016 at 04:28 PM