



## Clark Parker Mangelsdorf

October 28, 1928 - December 20, 2019

Clark Parker Mangelsdorf, 91, of Carmel, IN, passed away peacefully Friday, December 20th at Sunrise Assisted Living on Old Meridian after a series of hospitalizations, two months of rehab, and ultimately, the comforting care of hospice. Born on October 28, 1928, to Paul and Helen (Peg) Mangelsdorf in Bryan, Texas, he was a younger brother to Paul Jr. He spent his early years in Texas. When Clark was in 7th grade, his family moved to Newton, Massachusetts and it was there that Clark graduated from Newton High School. He enlisted in the Air Force (then known as the Army Air Corps), completed basic training in San Antonio, TX, and ultimately was transferred to Wyoming, where he found his calling in teaching.

Upon his honorable discharge in 1949 as a Staff Sergeant, he headed off to Swarthmore College, outside of Philadelphia, PA. While there, he met and married Betty Lou. Clark continued his Civil Engineering education, obtaining a BS from Swarthmore, and an MS and ScD, from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, teaching intermittently at Swarthmore College and the University of Illinois. Son Christopher and younger daughter Carolyn were both born while in Swarthmore, while elder daughter, Louisa, was born in Illinois. Clark spent a sabbatical year at the Delft Technical Institute, living in Maasland, Holland, from 1966-1967. In 1968, he accepted a position at the University of Pittsburgh, where he finished off his career, dividing his time between the Civil and Mining Engineering Departments. Clark was widowed the first time in 1981. He remarried in 1983 to RuthAnn but was widowed a second time in

2002. His third marriage in 2004 ended abruptly and unexpectedly in 2018 and he moved to Sunrise Senior Living in Carmel, IN, to be closer to his daughter, Louisa. It was there that he met his beloved Charlene, with whom he shared many hours of companionship until his final days.

Clark was known for his wonderful tenor voice, being a committed member to the Riverside Presbyterian Church in Oakmont, PA, and the Latrobe United Methodist and Presbyterian Church choirs in Latrobe, PA. He was active in Lion's Club, Contact Pittsburgh (a crisis phone line), Stephen Ministry and Hospice. He was known by extended family members for his humor and affection.

Clark was preceded in death by his parents and brother, his first wife of 30 years, (Elizabeth Louise "Betty Lou" Hoag of Dorchester, MA) and his second wife (RuthAnn Adams from Elizabeth, PA) of 19 years.

Clark is survived by his three children: Chris (Nachi) Mangelsdorf, Louisa (Michael) Chiasson, and Carolyn (Robert Grimm) Mangelsdorf; 7 grandchildren: Grace Sutcliffe, Thomas (Cindy) Chiasson, David (April) Chiasson, Hannah (Jonathan) Gerke, and Alex, Joshua and Sarah Mangelsdorf Grimm; two great grandchildren: Shannon and Leah Gerke; and by his dear friend and companion, Charlene Kelsey.

A Memorial Service will be scheduled in Oakmont, PA, once COVID-19 traveling restrictions have eased. Please contact Louisa Chiasson at [LAMCHIASSON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAMCHIASSON@GMAIL.COM) for further details.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that contributions can be made to Stephen Ministry, 2045 Innerbelt Business Center Dr., St. Louis, MO 63114. Please note "Donation in memory of Clark Mangelsdorf" in the check memo line.

# Tribute Wall

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“ I enjoyed having Professor Manglesdorf for an introductory structural engineering class at the University of Pittsburgh in the mid 70's. I remember his colorful story about when designing for stress, don't forget about deflection. He told us that when he was a young engineering student, he eagerly volunteered his services to his mom who needed a new clothesline support post. He designed it. He installed it. His mom used it. And the result was that her clothes-line clothes were now laying on the ground! He was stunned. He rechecked his math. It was all good...for stress, but not deflection, which he neglected to check. That simple, colorful story about stress & deflection stayed with me for over the four decades of my structural engineering career. Bob Davidson BSCE 1977

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**Bob Davidson** - July 16, 2022 at 07:39 PM

JS

“ I met the Professor in 1968. I was a sales rep for Vishay and Clark was purchasing a Photoelastic Polariscope for a new laboratory. I am 79 now and I never forgot working with him; a real gentleman. With regrets,  
Joseph Surgenor

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**Joseph J Surgenor** - December 04, 2021 at 10:10 PM