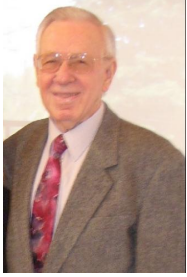


Richard Hager



Hager, Richard 1/22/1929 - 12/29/2014 Ann Arbor Richard D. Hager, age 85, passed away peacefully Monday, December 29, 2014. Dick was born January 22, 1929 in Ann Arbor, Michigan the son of George and Rolene (Kaiser) Hager. He was a graduate of Ann Arbor High School. Dick worked at King-Seeley from 1948 until 1961. On August 28, 1948 he married Alta Beardsley who preceded him in death on August 14, 1993. In 1947 Dick signed a professional baseball contract with the Washington Senators Baseball Club, as an infielder. He spent three years with the Senators before returning to Ann Arbor with his family. Then Dick founded and managed the Ann Arbor Travelers baseball team along with Russ McCalla and John Dudley. Dick fondly recalled beating the Grand Rapids Sullivan's to advance to the amateur baseball championship tournament. Dick began his scouting career in 1954 with the Washington Senators. In 1961 Dick and his family moved to Oregon and then California to scout for the Minnesota Twins and Kansas City Royals Baseball Clubs. Dick scouted for the Los Angeles Dodgers for five years beginning in 1975. He felt this was the best major league club in baseball. He then went on to scout for nine years with the San Diego Padres. He held positions as Assistant Scouting Director and Special Assistant to the General Manager, his good friend Jack McKeon. He also enjoyed his time as the Scouting Director for the Houston Astros from 1991-1996. Dick spent the last seven years of his career divided between the Cincinnati Reds and Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Clubs and retired at the end of the 2003 season. Dick was blessed to have found his passion in life and have a 50 year career as a professional baseball scout. His tireless work ethic, positive attitude, and ability to see the best in those around him are what made him so special to those whose lives he touched. On January 30, 1999 Dick married Betty Hoelzer of Ann Arbor in Los Altos California. They went on to travel the Midwest for the last five years of his scouting career. He then retired and they returned to Ann Arbor sharing fifteen wonderful years together. Dick was an avid University of Michigan fan. He attended local sporting events and the M Club lunches at Weber's. Dick was very much loved by family and friends and will always be remembered as a very kind, warm, humble and loving person. Dick is survived by his wife, Betty, his daughter, Kathy (Dennis) Truesdale of Spokane, Washington, Eileen Hager of Sonoma, California, Larry (Sherry) Hager of Chandler, Arizona, Nancy (Joel) Snyder of Burlingame, California, Laura Hager of Sunnyvale, California and step children Michael (Sheila) Hoelzer of Ann Arbor and Bonnie (Gary) Templeton of Ann Arbor, several grandchildren and great grandchildren and siblings, Madonna Jacobs of Fairview, Tennessee, Jeanette (Carman) Ragatz of Pearland, Texas, David (Gerri) Hager of Howell, Michigan, Alan (Jane) Hager of Munith, Michigan. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Elaine Hager Lowney and brother Dan Hager. A Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at the Nie Funeral Home, Liberty Road Chapel, Ann Arbor, MI, with Pastor Ray Maurer officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 1-2 p.m. The family would like to thank the wonderful caregivers at Towsley for all of their endless help and support. Contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice of Ann Arbor at 2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103, the [Alzheimer's Association](#) at 564 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or Chelsea Retirement Community at Towsley Village, 805 W. Middle, Chelsea, MI 48118.



Funeral Home

Nie Family Funeral Home & Cremation Service Inc

3767 W Liberty Rd Ann Arbor, MI 48103
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