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**Wallace Ray Hedman**

Wallace (Wally) Ray Hedman died peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Feb. 1, 2015, at the Westerly Hospital. He was predeceased by his parents, Ray and Velma Hedman.

Wally is survived by his loving wife, Mary (Quonochontaug), his son, Glenn Hedman and his wife Linda (Charlestown), daughter, Loren Hedman (Wakefield), son, Craig Hedman and his wife Nancy (Tallahassee, Fla.), and his sister, Jeanette Ormiston (Chester, N.J.). Wally is also survived by seven grandchildren; Kristopher Hedman and his wife Kelly, Derek Hedman, Alexander Buell, Kelsey Hedman, Hannah Buell, Maggie Buell, and Melissa Hedman, one step-grandson, Aaron Wujcik and his wife Christine, and one step-great-grandchild, Gregory Wujcik.

Wally was born on Feb. 18, 1927 in Brooklyn, N.Y. and lived there until he was four years old. He grew up in Radburn, N.J. and lived in Woodcliff Lake, N.J. from 1955 until 1987. He was a summer resident of Quonochontaug, R.I. from 1964-1987 and retired there in 1988. Wally and Mary Elizabeth Feinler were married on November 16, 1951 in Hillsdale, N.J.

Graduate of Ridgewood (N.J.) High school (1944) where he excelled in baseball, football, and basketball. Wally attended the College of William & Mary on a baseball scholarship (Captain) and graduated in 1950 with a business/accounting degree. The Brooklyn Dodgers, NY Giants, and Pittsburgh Pirates all had an interest in Wally, which led to a short stint with the Oil City Pirates.

Wally enlisted in the [US Navy](#) during [World War II](#) (1944-1945) where he was a radar operator on LSMR 407. His ship was one of several thousand vessels that were staging up for the pending invasion of Japan in the summer of 1945 when the war ended.

Wally worked for Western Electric Corporation in New York City in the early 1950s and after approximately 5 years, joined International Telephone & Telegraph (ITT) as a contracts manager in Paramus, N.J. During his 28 years with ITT, Wally was intimately involved with several defense, aerospace, and science programs including the early-warning ballistic missile defense system, the Apollo Space Program, Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, the Alaskan Pipeline, and National Science Foundation research in Antarctica.

Wally was a gifted and highly competitive athlete who loved doing anything that involved physical exercise. He spent countless hours at the Ocean Community YMCA where he not only enjoyed the great facilities, but absolutely reveled in seeing his friends, be it the wonderful ladies at the front desk, or his buddies in the weight room, pool, racquetball court, and locker room. He was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity, the Quonochontaug Central Beach Tennis Association, and he introduced Little League Baseball and girl's basketball to Woodcliff Lake, N.J. Wally was a coach at heart and truly had the gift of encouragement. He would rather coach and/or watch his kids and grandkids play a sport or engage in an activity than do anything else on this side of heaven.

Wally also contributed to numerous national and local charities.

Wally was buried at the R.I. Veterans Cemetery in Exeter on Feb. 6, 2015. A memorial service will take place in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to the Ocean Community YMCA in Westerly, R.I. For online condolences please visit [Buckler-Johnston.com](http://Buckler-Johnston.com)

**Funeral Home****Buckler-Johnston Funeral Home**

121 Main St. Westerly, RI 02891  
(401) 596-2465

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