ROBERT W. CAREY '55

CAREY, Robert W., MD Age 80, formerly of Sherborn and Pocasset, died on Tuesday morning, February 17, 2015, after a long illness with Parkinson’s disease. He was the devoted husband of Jocelyn Rhodes Carey for 54 years. Born and raised in Harrisburg, PA, he was a son of Charles Willard and Margaret (Trainham) Carey and a 1951 graduate of John Harris High School. With the encouragement of his parents and Dr. Robert C. Ruedy, his uncle and mentor, he decided to pursue a career in medicine. He earned his undergraduate degree in 1955, magna cum laude from Williams College with several awards in Biology. After his 1959 graduation from Harvard Medical School, Dr. Carey won an internship at Massachusetts General Hospital and next elected to enter the burgeoning field of oncology. He was grateful to study for two years under the tutelage of Dr. James Holland at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY. Dr. Carey returned to Massachusetts General Hospital and practiced oncology/hematology for 41 years. Dr. Carey was a founding member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and in the course of his career authored more than 100 medical papers. He sat as the principle investigator for CALGB for twenty years and was an ASCO fellow and board member. Robert and Jocelyn maintained homes in Sherborn and Pocasset and moved to Westwood in recent years to a retirement community. Bob spent his final months at a nursing home in Northbridge, Massachusetts, visited often by friends and family. Dr. Carey was an avid tennis player and fisherman and also enjoyed boating for several years in Buzzards Bay on Cape Cod. Swimming and reading were favored pastimes, but playing with and talking with his grandchildren shone above all. In addition to Jocelyn, he is survived by two sons, Ted Carey and his wife Kelly of Upton, and Will Carey and his wife Jill of Natick; a daughter, Madeleine Carey Sampson, M.D., and her husband, Brad Sampson, M.D., of Duxbury; eight grandchildren, Teddy, Luke, Matthew, David, Chasey, Miles, Tucker, and Fletcher; a sister, Marion Alexander of Hummelstown, PA; and a sister-in-law, Cherry Rhodes of Gloucester. A memorial service will be held in Pilgrim Church UCC Congregational, 25 South Main Street (Route 27), Sherborn, on Saturday, February 28th at 10:00AM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dr. Carey’s memory to the Chief of Clinical Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital, 55 Fruit Street, Boston, MA 02114. To leave a message of condolence for the Carey Family, please visit

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