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Patrick Murphy(1939 - 2018)

Patrick Alan Murphy

March 10, 1939 - April 14, 2018

Patrick Alan Murphy passed away peacefully at home on April 14, 2018. Born March 10, 1939, the only child of Raymond E. and Marion F. Murphy, both Professors of Geography, he grew up in Massachusetts, graduated from Williams College and the U.C. Berkeley School of Law. During the Vietnam War Pat served in the U.S. Marine Corp reserve.

In 1977 he was a founding partner of Murphy Weir and Butler LLP. After a name change in 1998 to Murphy, Sheneman, Julian and Rogers LLP, the Murphy firm was acquired by Winston and Strawn LLP in 2003. Pat's firm was counsel to many of the most prominent corporate Chapter 11 cases in the Bay Area and nationwide. He was the author of Creditors' Rights in Bankruptcy, later co-authored with Eric Sagerman, and a prolific author and lecturer on restructuring topics. In 2012 he received a Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Bankruptcy.

He loved the practice of law and those who worked with him. Pat served on the board of Cathedral School for Boys. Under Mayors Art Agnos and Frank Jordan he was a member of the San Francisco Airport Commission from 1988 to 1995, and President from 1991 to 1995. With Mayor Jordan he traveled China on a trade mission.

In Sonoma county he spent many happy days with family, friends, and his beloved dog, Jolly. There he liked to garden, read, and listen to country music. A history buff, he had a broad knowledge of world history. Throughout 54 years of marriage he and Gail traveled to places near, far and wide. In recent years he remained an active theater goer, and attended the symphony, films and lectures. Gastronomic events were a favorite. The more extensive the courses and wines, the richer the food, the happier he was.

For more than twenty years he lived and worked with Parkinson's, which he handled with grace and aplomb. Known for his pithy remarks and command of the English language, a particular challenge was his loss of normal speech. Using few words, he was able to express himself until his last day. Pat will be remembered for his intellect, his kindness, his wry humor, and his generous nature.

Survived by his wife, Gail, sons Alex and Scott, daughter-in-law Maggie, and granddaughter, Lily, a memorial service will be held Sunday, May 6, at 2p.m, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on Van Ness and Clay. Pastor Meling from the Norwegian Seaman's Church officiating. A Buddhist blessing will be given by Paul Discoe, Zen priest. His family expresses their gratitude to Dr. Philip Starr and his team at U.C.S.F. for their life enhancing work with deep brain stimulation.

Memorial donations may be made to the National Parkinson's Foundation, or to a charity of choice.

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