

Obituary for Robert D. Welchli

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Robert Denaple Welchli was born on August 21, 1931 in Bay City, Michigan to Russell K and Dorothy S Welchli. They moved to Detroit in 1935 and then to Grosse Pointe Farms in 1943.

Robert attended Detroit University School AKA University of Liggett in Grosse Pointe Woods before going out East to Taft School in Watertown, CT where he graduated in 1949. Robert graduated from Williams College, Williamstown, MA in 1953 with honors in Greek and Roman history. He earned his Master's degree in History from the University of Michigan in 1954 and received his Law degree in 1958 from the University of Michigan. He worked in Detroit as an estate and trust attorney for over 40 years.

Robert was a long time swimmer and was part of the Williams College championship swim teams of 1952 and 1953. He was also an avid reader and was a scholar of the American Civil War as well as British and American history. His personal history library is amongst one of the largest and best in Michigan. He had walked many of the Civil War battlefields throughout America as well as the battlefield of Waterloo.

Robert was a long-standing member on the Board of the Detroit Institute of the Arts and frequented the Opera as well. He also was a great supporter of the Detroit Zoo.

Robert was predeceased by his parents Russell (1988) and Dorothy (1987) as well as his brother John who passed away earlier this year. He is survived by his nephews Russell (Dee) and John (Victoria) as well as his fraternal grandnephew Grant.

The family also wants to give a special heartfelt thank you to the caregivers over the last five years, especially Helen Head and Maghan Hand.

