



Mr. Rolfe E. White

February 14, 1938 - June 10, 2021

Rolfe E White, 83, passed away on June 9, 2021 peacefully at home surrounded by his family. He was born February 14, 1938 to the late Endsley “Sonny” and Lucerne White in Cleveland, OH. Rolfe attended college at Oberlin College obtaining his undergraduate degree. He continued his education completing a master’s degree in Social Work from Case Western University in Ohio. In 1969, he moved from Cleveland to Green Bay and accepted a position with UW-Green Bay as a professor of Social Work. Rolfe was a lifelong learner and continued to always strive to achieve more. One of his greatest accomplishments was completing his Doctorate in Philosophy from Laurance University in 1982. His passion was to give back to the community and serve for the common good. With his Social Work platform, it led to the founding of the NEW Community Clinic in 1971 serving low-income and uninsured individuals in the community. He continued to serve on the board as President until January 2021. He was passionate about the community’s homeless population and served as the chair of the Task Force to the area’s homeless coalition. Upon retirement from UW-Green Bay in 1998, he amplified his love for Social Work and the University by initiating the Rolfe E. White Scholarship for future Social Work students. He continued to be a large part of the adjunct staff and instruct master level classes years after his retirement.

Rolfe was selfless in all he did. He taught with his entire heart and mind, never leaving a stone unturned, a question unanswered, or a student in need. He

seldom spoke of all his amazing accomplishments and never thought what he was doing was anything more than what everyone should do. His kindness, compassion, and love for his career left a lasting impression on many.

Shortly following retirement, he reunited with his forever love, Judy. They married on April 30, 2001. They enjoyed many outdoor activities, Packer games, traveling, coffee shops, dinner with friends, and simple quiet days enjoying their yard. Rolfe loved all these things, but he shined and was most alive when he was able to windsurf. This was his happy place. The Bay, the water, and winds; this was Rolfe. He never hesitated to teach anyone, anything. He wanted to spread his love for the sport with all that he knew.

Survivors include his wife of 20 years, Judy White of Green Bay; his six children; Rick White, Tampa, FL; Bonnie Koenig, Madison; Sean (Tracey) Payne, Green Bay; Sheila Smith, Green Bay; Mindy (Jackson) Wolke, Green Bay; Andrew (Amber) Smith, Green Bay. Siblings; Krista Lavell, Ohio; Kathy Hyle, Ohio; Glen (Juhli) White, Canada; Kerri (Mike) Van Keuren, Ohio; Nine grandchildren; Charlana, Kyle, Kayla, Hanna, Karli, Zane, Quinn, Ava, and Brody; two great grandchildren; Lashon and Lei'lani; Special friend; Ann McLean; and many nieces and nephews.

Rolfe was preceded in death by his parents, brother Ross White, nephew Bobby Shaw, and two grandsons: Darnell and Justin Smith.

A heartfelt thank you to the cancer team at Vince Lombardi Cancer Center and all of the Unity Hospice nurses and staff. We appreciate your support and care for Rolfe during these difficult times.

Close family will gather for a small private graveside ceremony at Woodlawn Cemetery where Rolfe will have his final resting place. A celebration of life will be held later this summer and all who knew Rolfe are welcome to attend.

Date, time, and location will be available soon.

In lieu of flowers, a donation will be given to the Homeless Coalition of Brown County and the NEW Community Clinic in Rolfe's name.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

1542 S. Webster Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54301

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

JP

“*Rolfe was my professor, both as an undergraduate, and as my committee chairman in grad school. I remember his patience and kindness when he as trying to understand me, due to a disability. I shall always remember him fondly.*

Janet Peterson

Janet Peterson - July 26, 2021 at 07:07 PM

VL

“*My sympathies to the family. Rolfe was my teacher at UWGB in 1978. I was an older student so we spent time talking about family, etc. He was a very kind man and a great teacher. He lived a rich, full life and helped shape many people's ways of thinking and doing things.*

Vicki Lewis-McKee

Vicki L Lewis-McKee - June 13, 2021 at 01:05 PM



“*I found myself a student at UWGB in '84, and there upon its shores was Rolfe windsurfing. This was a life changing discovery. Thank you Rolfe for sharing your sport. RIP Legend. Condolences to Rolfe's family. Herb Cuene.*

Herb Cuene - June 12, 2021 at 07:33 PM

LH

“*Great memories windsurfing with Rolfe (aka) "The Legend"*

Larry Horkman - June 12, 2021 at 01:25 PM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Larry Horkman - June 12, 2021 at 01:21 PM