

Richard Peaslee

Richard Selby Peaslee, beloved husband and cherished friend, passed away Sunday, Feb. 14, 2010, in a local health care facility.

A native of Worcester, Mass., Richard was born on April 8, 1930, to the late Philip and Evelyn Peaslee.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Gigi Batu Peaslee, a native of Turkey; his sisters, Joy Nadon and Judith (Alan) Gustafson, of Worcester; and nephews, Brett Boucher and Eric Gustafson. Also surviving are his brother-in-law, Atilla (Christa) Batu; his nephews-in-law, John and Kerim Batu; and a niece-in-law, Suzan Batu, of Darmstadt, Germany. Richard also leaves behind many friends, who will miss him sorely, especially Richard Brewer, Henry Groseclose, Hugh Walker, Everett Hixson and David Kling.

Retired from the U.S. Navy as Chief Petty Officer (Radio Man), most of Richard's service was spent on ships in the 6th Fleet. His final posting, to Chattanooga, led to the Peaslees choosing to make the city their home. Richard was associated with Rossville Yarn and the Better Business Bureau before joining Rock City Gardens, from which he retired, for second time, in 1995.

A longtime American history buff, with a special interest in the Civil War, Richard graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a B.A. in history. Over the years, he spent time at each of the national Civil War parks and museums.

An active community volunteer, Richard's service extended from tutoring at Normal Park Elementary School to serving on the Chattanooga Sports Committee. He also belonged to Red Bank Masonic Lodge 717, Alhambra Shrine of Chattanooga and the Alhambra Legion of Honor. In addition, Richard was a 32nd-degree Chattanooga Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the High Twelve Club.

An active member of Second Presbyterian Church, Richard was an ordained elder, who gave his time generously to many church projects.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant" Matthew 25:23.

Funeral services for Mr. Peaslee will be held at Second Presbyterian Church, 700 Pine St., Chattanooga, at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 2010, with Rev. Perry McCallen officiating.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010, at the North Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home 5401 Highway 153, Hixson, TN 37343.

Interment will take place at Chattanooga National Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to

the Alhambra Shrine Transportation Fund, 1000 Alhambra Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37421-3701, or to Second Presbyterian Church, designated to the Sanctuary Renovation.

Please share your thoughts and memories at www.mem.com.

Arrangements are made by Chattanooga Funeral Home, Crematory & Florist, 5401 Highway 153, Hixson, TN 3734