



David De Graaf

February 7, 1931 - April 2, 2022

Mr. De Graaf died peacefully on Apr. 2, 2022 at age 91, surrounded by his family.

He earned his Bachelor's of Science in Engineering Physics from Lehigh in 1952, and his Master's of Science in Electrical Engineering from Princeton.

Mr. De Graaf worked at Bell Telephone Laboratories and its subsidiary, Bellcomm. Based on his early work with missile guidance systems and telemetry, he developed, at Bellcomm, the trajectory simulations that guided the Apollo astronauts to the moon and back, and supported the Skylab missions. He also worked to develop aspects of the UNIX operating system, and delighted in the rise of Linux, which powers the internet. He planned and developed a large network for the '84 Summer Olympics. He formed a consulting firm, Datix Inc., to help small businesses set up mixed Linux and Windows computer networks. A favorite quote attributed to Dave is: "When the steamroller of digital technology rolls through town, you can either be part of the steamroller or part of the road." He was a private pilot, and enjoyed windsurfing, sailing and navigation, as well as mountain biking, hiking, white water rafting, woodworking and computing.

Predeceased by his wife, Marguerite, David is survived by his son Stuart and daughter-in-law Sandy, three grandchildren, Brandon, Stephanie and

Amanda, his brother Robert, many nieces and a nephew.

Tribute Wall

OL

“ June 2015, Hampton Court Palace

Olivia - April 05, 2022 at 03:46 PM

OB

“ Our heartfelt condolences. Uncle David will be sorely missed. Love

Olivia and the Brits - April 05, 2022 at 03:32 PM

CR

“ We are all very sorry for your loss. I remember my mom and dad's stories from when Marti and my mom roomed together in college and then remained great friends through the years. Having you at our house during some of the Apollo flights was amazing.

Chris Riley - April 04, 2022 at 06:02 PM

AG

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Simplicity Cremation & Funeral Services

A Memorial Tree was planted for David De Graaf - April 03, 2022 at 12:58 PM