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Norman Graff MD



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POLO
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NORMAN GRAFF OBITUARY

Norman Graff, MD 1921 - 2011 Norman passed away peacefully on December 27th, at his home in Hillsborough, California, with his wife Phyllis at his side. He had been ill for some months. He was born in Chicago and graduated from Chicago Teachers College in 1942, enlisted in the Army and through the Army attended medical school at the University of Chicago, receiving his M.D. in 1949. While taking preparatory courses for medicine at the University of Minnesota, he met Phyllis in a chemistry lab. They married in 1946 and celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in August. He interned in San Francisco at the former U.S. Public Health Service--Marine Hospital, then completed a residency in psychiatry at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas. Recalled to service in the Korean War, he served at the United States Medical Center for Federal Prisoners in Springfield, Missouri. Norman and his family moved to San Mateo, California where he had a successful private practice of psychiatry for many years, treating adults, adolescents and children. He retired at 65 but then joined the VA Hospital at Menlo Park to serve in their PTSD program for the next 10 years. He was active in organized psychiatry and served as President of the Northern California Psychiatric Society, and received multiple honors, including a Distinguished Life Fellowship from the American Psychiatric Association. He was on the clinical faculty of Stanford University and taught psychiatric residents for many years. Norman enjoyed sailing his Santana 22 "Fluppy". He was quite creative and enjoyed painting, woodworking, photography, ceramics and music. He and Phyllis travelled throughout the world. He loved getting to know the local people and his fellow voyagers, and made fast friendships which lasted decades, and continued childhood friendships until his death. He had a series of dogs and loved them all. He enjoyed going to museums and art galleries with his family, and instilled a love of art in his children. He had a satisfying and busy social life and went for years to the ballet, opera, the symphony and the stage. He enjoyed wine and fine restaurants. He was a keen observer of life, and a thoughtful and engaging man. His family was the most important thing in his life, and his marriage, his children and his grandchildren were his greatest love. He was a man of strong opinions, who did

be greatly missed by, his wife Phyllis, his children and their respective spouses, Marc (Karin), Wendy (Darryl), Steven (Kim), Douglas (Cindy), and eight grandchildren-Rebecca (Ryan), Benjamin, Adam (Dorothy), Michael, Mollie, David, Shoshana and Daniel. The family wishes to thank his wonderful caregivers Suli, Rosanna and Fay. There will be a private memorial at a later date. Contributions in his memory may be made to the [charity of your choice](#).

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