



Mr. Chester F. Potash

June 1, 2024

Chester F. Potash, age 90, of Pittsfield, MA passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at Berkshire Medical Center after a brief illness. He had been a patient at Albany Medical Center and then Mt Greylock Extended Care Center for the past two months.

Chet was born in Pittsfield, MA . He was the youngest son of Frank and Mary Potash. He graduated from Saint Joseph's Central High School in Pittsfield, MA in 1953. He was drafted in December 1956 and served in the United States Army for two years from 1956 to 1958 working as a draftsman with the Army Corps of Engineers at the Pentagon in Washington D.C..

He met his wife of 64 years, Gertrude Eleanor Hanlon (Trudy), at Jug End Barn Resort. They married on September 12, 1959, at Our Lady of Libera Church in West New York, NJ.

Chet worked in industrial design and engineering, first as a draftsman for Hill Engineering in Dalton, MA and later as a partner in his own business: Potash, Delmolino & Davis Engineering for Industry, also located in Dalton, MA. There he worked as a project manager, designer, surveyor, optical alignment operator, and field supervisor. He retired at the age of 80 when the business closed.

Chet was a communicant of Saint Mark's Church, where he was the Eucharistic Minister Coordinator for many years. He also taught the adult Baptism class for parents and godparents with his wife, Trudy. Chet was a member of the Good Shepard Prayer Group. Chet and Trudy were very involved in Marriage Encounter as Team Leaders.

Chet loved the outdoors. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and walks in the woods. He also enjoyed bowling and golfing. He earned his private pilot's license after learning to fly at the Walter J. Koladza Airport in Great Barrington, MA. He was an artist who loved to draw and paint from an early age. He was a wonderful cook. He mixed great drinks. He loved family, he loved people and he loved to entertain. He was a great dad who loved each of his five children dearly.

Chet is survived by his children: Cathy Walsh (Bill) of Great Barrington, MA, Chet Potash (Leslie) of North Adams, MA, Caryn Kirk (Tim) of Raleigh, NC, Christopher Potash of Rochester, NY, and Joseph Potash of Pittsfield, MA; his grandchildren: Brittany, Matthew, and Michael Walsh, McKenzie Hebert, Mitchell Anderson, Ryan Kirk (Megan), Evan Kirk (Victoria), Chloe, Molly, and Lucy Potash; his great grandchildren: Nora and Emily Kirk, and Callum Atwell; many nieces and nephews, and his beloved little dog, Czesiu.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Trudy; by his grandsons, Joseph and Charles Potash; by his brothers, Frank and Walt Potash; and by his nephew, Thomas Potash.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Mt. Greylock Extended Care Center for their loving care and kindness toward Chet. You are all angels!

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Chester F. Potash will be Friday, June 7, 2024 with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 11am at St. Mark's Church, celebrated by the Rev. John Salatino, Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Westfield. Burial with full military honors will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery. Calling hours will be Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 4pm to 6pm at the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North St, Pittsfield MA 01201.

In lieu of flowers donations in his memory can be made to the Berkshire Humane Society, 214 Barker Road, Pittsfield, MA 01201 in care of the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Cemetery

222 Peck's Rd.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home
776 North Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-5094
info@dwyerfuneral.com
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

Service

JUN 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mark's Church
400 West St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Tribute Wall

CB

“*Dear Brother, I wish I could turn the clock back to circa 1959 when you first came into my life. Our family awaited your first visit to New Jersey, and we were all so anxious to meet you. From that moment I had the big brother I never had before!*

Thank you for how devoted you were to my sister Trudy, how you loved and cared for her. I remember having tears in my eyes when I was told that you stood outside her window to the nursing home during Covid just to be near and support her.

Thank you for all the wonderful family moments in Pittsfield where you greeted my family with open arms and cooked some of your specialty fish dishes. I knew my wife, Debbie, wasn't partial to having fresh fish with the head still attached but even she enjoyed it! Debbie and I looked forward every year to the 'sisters' visit with us in NJ but somehow you turned the 'sisters' visit into 'sisters and brother' and made it even better.

Thank you for treating me so often to golf and especially the wonderful experience at the Pittsfield Country Club. I also remember that fateful day on 9/11 when we were playing golf in NJ and could see the smoke from the World Trade Center disaster and wondered what had happened.

I also admired how tireless and hard working you were, and you left a lasting impression on me and helped me become who I am.

So, my brother, you were a very special man and will be missed! It's comforting to think of you back sitting next to Trudy in heaven surrounded by Cindy, Carole and all of your family and ours! Rest in Peace,

I love you Chet,

Charlie

Charles Hanlon, brother-in-law - June 06, 2024 at 12:36 PM

YF

“ your Ancram Mill family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Chester F. Potash.

your Ancram Mill family - June 06, 2024 at 12:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Chester F. Potash.



June 06, 2024 at 12:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Chester F. Potash.



June 04, 2024 at 03:27 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Mr. Chester F. Potash.



June 04, 2024 at 12:37 PM

PS

“ *Our condolences to Chet, Leslie, and the whole Potash family on your loss...*

Peter and Sylvie

Peter Siegenthaler - June 04, 2024 at 09:31 AM