

Funeral Services for Graham Pardee

Graham Pardee passed way on September 23, 2007 at Morton Plant Hospital from complications due to infection. Graham Pardee was born on 22 May 1925 and was raised in Floral Park, NY. During World War II, he was in an experimental radar squadron performing anti-submarine warfare in the Western Atlantic. He graduated from Duke University in 1950 with a BA. He married Rosamond Clarke in 1950 and subsequently raised 3 girls and 1 boy. He served as a Lieutenant JG on the USS Midway during the Korean War. After closing his New York acoustical business in 1974, he moved to North Redington Beach, FL. In 1981, he started Tampa Bay Acoustics which was sold to his employees upon his retirement in 1990. He has been a member of Rotary since 1978 and an active member at Calvary Episcopal Church in Indian Rocks Beach. An avid boater, he was a member of the Clearwater Yacht Club. In his last few years, he divided his time between his condo in Indian Shores and another in Oaklyn, NJ. He loved traveling and his poker nights with "the guys". He is survived by his wife, his sister, 4 children, 6 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. He will be missed by all of his family and friends.



The funeral service will be held at

Calvary Episcopal Church

1615 1st St

Indian Rocks Beach

Saturday November 10, 2007

10:00 a m

Memorial donations may be made to

American Cancer Society

or the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Death of a Good Friend

My parents told me about **Mr. Common Sense** early in my life and told me I would do well to call on him when making decisions. It seems he was always around in my early years, but less and less as time passed by. Today I read his obituary. Please join me for a moment of silence in remembrance. For **Common Sense** had served us all so well for so many generations.

OBITUARY: Mr. Common Sense

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **Common Sense**, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, life isn't always fair & maybe it WAS my fault. **Common Sense** lived by simple, sound financial policies (*don't spend more than you earn*) and reliable parenting strategies, (*adults, not children, are in charge*).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition. **Common Sense** lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job they themselves failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. He declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer Aspirin, sun lotion or a sticky plaster to a student, but could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the *Ten Commandments* became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims. **Common Sense** took a beating when one couldn't legally defend one's own home for fear the burglar could sue for assault. **Common Sense** finally gave up the will to live after a woman, failing to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge cash settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, **Truth** and **Trust**; his wife, **Discretion**; his daughter, **Responsibility**; and his son, **Reason**.

He is survived by three stepbrothers; I-Know-My-Rights, Someone-Else-Is-To-Blame, and I-Am-A-Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

Author Unknown.

In Loving Memory

John N Cirelli
Sept 18, 1913
Oct 23, 2007



John N Cirelli, 94, of South Yarmouth, formerly of Brockton, died Tuesday, October 23, 2007, at the Cape Cod Hospital after a period of failing health. He was the husband of the late Jennie (Grigas) Cirelli. Born Sept 18, 1913 in Brockton, he was the son of the late Emidio Cirelli and Maria (Yarmouth) Cirelli. A Brockton resident until 1982, he then resided in South Yarmouth and Pinellas Park, FL for 25 years. He was Founder and Chairman of the Board of Cirelli Foods, Inc. located in Middleborough, formerly located in Brockton. A member of the Brockton Rotary, he also was an honorary snowbird member of our Pinellas Park Rotary. John was a former board member of the Brockton Old Colony YMCA and very active in many other Brockton civic affairs. The Massachusetts Restaurant Association honored John as a recipient of their Lifetime Achievement Award. He is survived by his daughter, Jean Kelleher of Brockton; his four grandchildren, Linda Meade, Kathleen Viola, Harold Kelleher and John Kelleher; nine great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Every year for over 20 years, John would spend 8 months, from October to May, in Pinellas Park. He was a vital part of our club as a snowbird member. From the moment he came to town, he would start making sales calls promoting the Pinellas Park Rotary Bowl-a-Thon to anyone who would listen. There wasn't a merchant in town or local friend that he did not solicit for a corporate sponsorship, a door prize or a cash pledge. He had such an easy going, calm & humble demeanor that no one could say "no" to him. He never sought recognition; he was just pleased when we reached our goals. He invited many Pinellas Park Rotarians to his summer home in Cape Cod where he and his wife, Jennie, opened their home and treated everyone as part of their family. He and Jennie will never be forgotten by those Rotarians, wives and children who crossed their paths.

John Cirelli leaves a long legacy in the wake of his passing. "Depend on Us like Family" was his motto. As the patriarch of the Cirelli family, John practiced that credo daily as he guided the progress of Cirelli Foods since its inception in 1946. John shepherded the company's rise from its humble beginnings as a one-man operation to its present position as an \$80 million business that is New England's largest family owned broadline foodservice distributor, reaching over 4,000 customers in the Northeast, with 124 employees headquartered in Middleborough, MA.

On the occasion of John Cirelli's induction into the Hospitality Hall of Fame of the National Restaurant Association in 2005, his grandson, John P. Kelleher, revealed many aspects of his grandfather's rise to success. The son of Italian immigrants and an enterprising young man, John realized in 1946 that there was a growing demand for Italian food products in the Brockton area, so he set out to fill that need. His first warehouse was the trunk of his car as John went door-to-door, selling the canned tomato goods that he purchased from suppliers in the North End of Boston. The quality of his products attracted the attention of area restaurant operators who became customers as well.

His three brothers, Vic, George & Joe all joined the growing company in the early 1950's. As the company became more and more successful, they expanded beyond Italian foods, offering a broader line of products. Incorporating as Cirelli Foods, Inc in 1952, the warehouse expanded from the family garage to rented space in Brockton's business district and then to a 3 story warehouse. In the 1960's, keeping abreast of the latest trends like frozen foods and the growth of the interstate highways, they hired John's son-in-law, Harold Kelleher, Sr. to design and build a modern food service sales and distribution facility in Brockton.

In 1967, John's wife, Jennie, left her previous job to take over as their new receptionist. John & his brothers were the mind and muscle of Cirelli Foods, but Jennie became its heart, forming a synergy that generated tremendous good will for the business. In 2004, the company moved into a new custom-built 130,000 sq ft headquarters in Middleborough, MA.

The Cirelli Foods Family mourns the loss of its stalwart anchor, but the many family members will carry on and keep the Cirelli tradition of a family owned and operated business alive and thriving in John Cirelli's memory.