



Harold "Sonny" Enloe

August 25, 1941 - June 19, 2017

Harold "Sonny" Coleman Enloe, of Asheville, died Monday, June 19, 2017. Sonny was born on August 25, 1941 to the late Ruth and Harold Enloe. Sonny was a native Ashevillean but lived and traveled literally throughout the world. He is survived by his son, Keith Coleman Enloe; Keith's Life Partner, Patricia Wigginton; two grandsons, Coleman and Michael Enloe and Sonny's Partner of Love, Marzy Israel. In addition to his parents, Sonny was preceded in death by his wife, Martha Osborne Enloe.

Sonny's accomplishments are almost too numerous to mention. He excelled as a star halfback for the Lee Edwards High School Football Team. He then went to North Carolina State University and became an active member of the SAE Fraternity. Sonny took a break his sophomore year to join the United States Marine Corps where he was a radio operator and received the Meritorious Performance Award. Martha and Sonny were married in 1964 and lived in New York City where he worked for Eastman Kodak. After completing a Masters of Business Administration degree at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Sonny went to work for the American Enka Corporation. This allowed him and his family to live in Wuppertal, Germany and to travel widely in Europe. Upon returning to Asheville, Sonny rose in the ranks with American Enka, becoming President in 1982. This was also the time that he developed his passion for sailing: his lifelong passion. Stewart Coleman, Bob York and Sonny sailed across the Atlantic Ocean in 1989, later crossings were

the Pacific Ocean, many from Charleston to the British Virgin Islands and Bermuda. Sonny's love of the sea brought him to buy a 1925 party house at Sullivan's Island, SC which became his fulltime home in 2006. Its interior totally resembled that of his sailboats with large charts of his ocean voyages. Sonny's strong enthusiasms extended to fun, fast cars, mostly Porsche's but also vintage Austin Healy's. He skied the major western slopes and motorcycled to as far as South Dakota, Labrador and Nova Scotia.

After leaving American Enka, Sonny bought and ran many businesses. The last of which was Cooper House Kitchens. He was a member of the University Club in New York City and The British Yacht Club. While in Asheville, Sonny served on several boards including The Airport Authority, The Mission Hospital Board, The Water Commission, The United Way and others.

In Spite of his fast pace and many endeavors, Sonny was an intent and compassionate listener. He would go out of his way to help friend or stranger.

A private interment will be held in the Urban Garden at Grace Episcopal Church. A celebration of Life for all will happen in The Century Room at Packs Tavern on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 5:00PM. Parking is available in the adjoining city lot.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, PO BOX 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675 or to the American Diabetes Association 2451 Crystal Drive, Suite 900 Arlington, VA 22202.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN 27. 5:00 PM (ET)

Pack's Tavern
20 S Spruce St
Asheville, NC 28801-3745
(828) 225-6944

Tribute Wall



“ *Harold "Sonny" Enloe*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Keith ~*

Our deepest condolences and love to you on your Dad's passing. You have been such a good and loyal son. That means so much to a father. Sonny was a special man and you have followed that tradition. He was as proud of you as you have been of him. He will be missed by all of us, most especially you and your family. You are in our thoughts. Much love, Sheri & Jim

Sheri Groce - June 29, 2017 at 07:50 PM



“ *Keith I can still remember when I could squeeze myself into the back seats of your dad's Porsches in about the 6th or 7th grade when he would come pick us up from the movies or ACDS and we would fly back up the mountain to your house while he let us listen to one of our tapes or had a good one of his own playing. Man that was always so fun. I ran into him at JC's barbershop at the Manor Inn Gatehouse on Charlotte Street once after we got a little older; I introduced myself and he remembered me right away. I'm very lucky to have known your dad. My heartfelt condolences are there with you and your family.*

*Your pal,
James Wornall*

James Wornall - June 26, 2017 at 06:56 PM

PS

“ *Sonny was one of the really good guys at Lee Edwards High that I regret not getting to know better He was always a pleasure to know on and off the football field. I recall that he gave 110% all the time and coach Isbell rewarded his efforts with a lot of playing time. From his obit, I can see he did the same in the business world. My heartfelt condolences to his family....see you on the other side Sonny.*

Paul Spruell, Atlanta GA

Paul Spruell - June 25, 2017 at 08:28 PM

LW

“ *Keith - I am so sorry to learn of your father's passing, You and your family are in my thoughts.*

-Lynn Williams, Morehead City, NC

Lynn Williams - June 25, 2017 at 04:37 AM

BW

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. I was in school with Sonny in the class of 1959. I always considered his friendship to be something special. I remember visiting him in the hospital after his accident, he was so grateful for the three men that helped him. He told me how they stayed with him and had such special prayers. I look forward to seeing him again in heaven. Rest In Peace my friend.*

Bill Waddell

Bill Waddell - June 24, 2017 at 10:08 PM

DL

“ *What a life lived and did he live it. Sonny and I worked together at American Enka for years and in a variety of his other businesses. Somehow, we simply talked in shorthand and had great fun doing it. We became great friends and enjoyed many sailing trips over the years. Perhaps the greatest thing Sonny gave me was his ability to make lemonade out of lemons and do it with style. One of the best laughs we ever had was in the late 80's when I was returning from a trip to Europe for American Enka contemplating a new job offer with Kayser Roth. I decided after 18 years I was making the change and went into Sonny's office and gave him the news where he broke out in hysterical laughter..... He too decided to resign this same day..... we literally laughed for half an hour. Sonny entered into his entrepreneurial phase of his life as did I and never looked back.*

Over the years, we would bounce ideas off each other, opportunities and just catch up. I will miss that.

Sail on Sonny for a life well lived....catch ya later!

Dennis Lilly

Dennis Lilly - June 24, 2017 at 05:51 AM

TS

“ *The Town of Sullivan's Island, SC purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Harold "Sonny" Enloe.*



The Town of Sullivan's Island, SC - June 23, 2017 at 11:18 AM

BM

“ I remember his telling me about being on a baseball team in grammar school. The team was going out of town to a game but had no uniforms. The mothers go together and dyed pants and shirts black. It either rained or they sweated a lot and they all turned black.

Ben Morrison and Faye Morrison - June 23, 2017 at 11:09 AM

RS

“ Maryclare and family... My sincere condolences. Grand memories of his football
And baseball greatness...even greater was his friendship.. A friend to so
Many of usGod bless his memory..
Roy sefus Stewart
San Diego, cal

Roy stewart - June 23, 2017 at 09:58 AM