



Franklin E. Porter

August 6, 1926 - January 31, 2025

Franklin Emery Porter passed away on January 31, 2025 in Edina, MN, with family by his side. Frank was born in Marquette, MI on August 6, 1926 to Charlotte Cummings Porter and John Emery Porter. He was raised in West Allis and Wauwatosa, WI, with his four siblings.

Frank served his country in WWII and the Korean War. First as a Navy V-5 Aviation Cadet, and later as a legal specialist Lieutenant Junior Grade. He was assigned to the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean as Assistant Fleet Legal Officer Cruiser Division.

He received his law degree from University of Wisconsin and then worked in the legal departments of Marathon Paper Company, General Mills, and ended his career with First Bank Systems (now USBank) as Secretary and General Counsel.

Frank was predeceased by his wife Nancy Giddings Porter (2007) and his partner, Solveig Swendseid (2024).

He is survived by daughter, Mary Porter Wright (John); sons, Jeff, Todd (Joan), and Doug (Susan) Porter. Grandchildren, Heather Wright Vickery (Brian), Justin Wright, David and Matthew Porter and great-grandchildren Charlie, Jack and Abby Vickery.

Frank's great-grandchildren called him Go-Go, because he never wanted to sit still. Frank and Nancy snow-birded in Naples, FL for many years, so they could enjoy being outdoors all year long. He loved to ski, played tennis into his 90's, and roller bladed until age 86. Frank could always be found puttering in his lovely gardens and enjoyed many years volunteering at the Arboretum. We will miss his quiet unassuming ways. He taught us all about patience, kindness, and humility.

Burial will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery and memorial contributions may be made to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum; 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska MN 55318.