



Gilbert H. Raab

August 23, 1927 - April 5, 2019

Gil passed away at his home on April 5, 2019. Born in White Plains, NY to Albert Raab and Agnes O'Connor Raab on August 23, 1927.

After graduating from Yonkers High School he served as a private 1st class in the US Army until 1946. He attended Long Island Agriculture and Technical Institute and received an Associate Degree in poultry husbandry in 1949. After graduation he was employed at two major poultry breeder/hatchery farms in Connecticut. In 1953 he purchased a 100 acre farm in Ghent on which he raised poultry and produced eggs.

After seventeen years of farming, he became a real estate broker here in Columbia County under the watchful eye of Irving Price. In 1972 he became involved with the Town of Ghent volunteering to help initiate the first zoning regulations in the town.

In 1997 he was hired by the Town of Ghent as Zoning Enforcement Officer and served in that position with distinction, stepping down in 2014. He loved his farm, especially the 50 acres of woodland and his 1949 John Deere Tractor Model M. His home away from home was Barkley's Lake in Pa. He started going there in 1931 with his parents and family and continued to visit up until his death.

Gilbert is survived by loving companion, Carol H. Calvin, his first cousin, June Hoffman Keller, Lucille Hilgeman Covell and Donal Levitt and his friend of 65 years Betty Ann Dzelzitis formerly of Kinderhook.

Gilbert had an incredible and satisfactory life and was fortunate to achieve his

life's goal of living in the country.

Graveside services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions will be accepted by The Columbia Land Conservancy,
Chatham, NY.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ My wife & I send our condolences to Carol and Gil's family. We were not aware of his passing until now. We have many fond memories of this remarkable gentleman who sold us our house in 1986 and whose life I helped to save along with Dr.Pearlstein several years ago. He recovered and went on to a reasonable quality of life. I had taken care of his late Mother who baked pies and latex the piano. We have many fond memories of Eaton Bh lunch at The Mouse House and would meet Gil there. He combined down home folksy outlook and humor contrasted to that of the late Irving Price. What a pair!

RIP DEAR GIL

Our condolences to Carol and his family!

Dr. Jeff & Angela Monkash

jeff monkash - May 20, 2020 at 02:54 PM

SP

“ I knew Gil through Hudson Michael Realty, my dad's brokerage. He was kind, gentle, thoughtful, calm, and mindful, with a wonderful sense of humor. One day my mother and I were at the office stamping several envelopes containing advertising invoices for my brother Mike's newspaper, The River Valley Chronicle. This was in the day before peel-away stamps; you had to lick them. We used a sponge bottle to save ourselves from glue poisoning. The top came loose and I spilled water over the entire roll, and we had to quickly affix the stamps while they were still sticky. Gil jumped in and helped. His comment: "Ah, pre-licked stamps."

Steve Price - April 17, 2019 at 05:31 PM

JG

“ Dear Carol and all of Gil's close family and friends:

I met Gil in the early 80's and was very fond of him for all the years I saw him regularly - probably until the late 90's-early 2000's. (Carol: you may remember me as "Julie and Barry"; I have many fond memories of time with you - and with Joyce - over lunch at the Mouse House.) Gil was a true gentleman and a rock - they don't make them like this anymore. Barry and I lived on the farm of Dave Spier when I was pregnant with my son. When the moment came that it was clearly time to go to the hospital, Barry had gone on an errand to Albany and couldn't be reached (no cell phones then!). It was late February and we were in the midst of a bad snow storm and I didn't know many people; the only person I could have considered calling upon and trust might come was Gil. I called him and asked shyly and of course he arrived right away and we arranged that he would take me halfway - to Germantown - and deposit me safely with another friend who would relay me the remainder of the way to Kingston. That was 28 years ago and I remember it like yesterday. He was always so gentle and kind - insisted on helping me get my shoes on as I couldn't reach over by then.

Please accept my sincere condolences. May his memory serve as a blessing.

*Julie
(Goldweitz)*

Julie Goldweitz - April 16, 2019 at 01:12 PM

TG

“ Dear Carol, June and family,

I just learned of Gil's passing. Please accept my sincere condolences. I considered Gil one of the finest persons I have ever met. I've known him for many years, and we have had numerous matters that we were handling together. He was an excellent real estate agent, but i really got to know him when he took over as the Chairman of the Town of Ghent ZBA. He did a fabulous job, He understood that his role was to help people, not to give them a hard time, and he always sought practical solutions in this regard. Most important he was kind and respectful in his dealings with all people. This attitude continued during his many years performing services for the Town in his capacity as Building inspector. He was a great building inspector. More importantly for me, he was my friend. He helped me whenever I had a question. He gave me his good guidance and judgment on the many issues we dealt with together. There was a mutual give and take between us that helped us to arrive at the right solution to matters before us.

I was thinking recently about Mike Losa and about how much I valued his friendship and also how much I enjoyed his company. I have the exact same thoughts about Gil. I will remember and cherish his friendship for the rest of my life.

Sincerely,

Ted Guterman

Theodore GutermanII - April 14, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ sorry for your loss russ holze

Russell Holze - April 12, 2019 at 04:10 PM