



Thomas Heines

October 20, 1927 - April 21, 2017

Thomas S. Heines, 89, died April 21 at home in Willoughby. Born Oct. 20, 1927 to Thomas and Irene Heines, Tom grew up in Grand Rapids, Mich. He earned his undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan. It was there he met his beloved wife, Barbara Arter, whom he married on June 15, 1951. A perfectly matched pair, the two were inseparable for 40 years before her untimely death after a short illness in 1992.

Tom began his career at Union Carbide, where he worked as a development engineer and then a research scientist for 11 years. The company took him from Michigan to West Virginia and Illinois, during which time he and Barbara had two children. The family moved to Cleveland in 1965 when Tom accepted a job as an associate professor at Cleveland State University. In 1971, he moved from chemical engineering to the then fledgling field of computer science, chairing the Computer and Information Science Department from 1985 until his retirement in 1993.

Tom was known to family and friends alike as a quiet, unassuming gentleman who accepted everyone without judgment. He spoke infrequently, offering sage and thoughtful advice that was highly valued by those fortunate enough to hear it. Although he had limited use of his left arm after surviving polio as a child, Tom was fiercely independent and never considered himself disabled. In fact, he excelled at tennis in his youth and prior to his wife's death, many summer days found them on their 30-foot Hunter sailboat, Paradox, on Lake

Erie. He lived simply and independently until his death.

When he wasn't tinkering with his computers, many of which he built himself, Tom enjoyed reading, doing puzzles, listening to classical music and operas, and watching movies from his impressive collection. Tom delighted in spending time with his children and six grandchildren, all of whom cherished him.

Tom is survived by his brother, Dan; children Lindsey (David) Peters, and Michael (Marjorie) Heines; and grandchildren Kristin (Dan) Jennings, Claire (Tony) Meier, Jonathan (Lauren) Peters, Thomas (Rachel) Heines, Patrick Peters and Kathryn Heines.

A memorial service will be held May 6 at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Covenant, 11205 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, 44106. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to The Fine Arts Association, 38660 Mentor Ave., Willoughby, Ohio 44094; or to Empower Sport at 3210 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115.