

B. Craig Tierney Memorial Fund



Craig Tierney was born on March 30, 1930, to Gwen and Bernard Tierney in Mason City, Iowa, which is the small town that the musical “The Music Man” was based on. Craig joined the Navy when he was 18, and served from 1948 to 1955, including combat in Korea.

After his time in the Navy, Craig went to college and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from Iowa State in 1959 while struggling to support his family. He went on to graduate studies at the University of Minnesota.

Craig served as General Manager of Alliant TechSystems (formerly Honeywell) in Horsham, PA until his retirement in 1994. Prior to his employment in Horsham, he worked for Honeywell in Minneapolis, MN from 1960 until his transfer to Pennsylvania. He contributed greatly to the company and was involved in many important projects including work on the Galileo space project on its flight to Jupiter.

Craig cherished his involvement with PFEW. He served in many capacities: Company Advisor, Board President for two terms, and a member of the Board. He looked forward to PFEW and the many talented students he met each year. Off-season, as he traveled across the country, he was always telling people about PFEW and the impact it made on his life.

Craig loved the open water. In the Navy, out at sea, he would lie on the bow of the ship and watch the dolphins swimming alongside him. After he retired, he bought a boat, which he named the “Kelli” after his precious Springer Spaniel. Craig would spend weeks at a time on the Kelli, restoring the boat and taking it out for cruises around the Chesapeake Bay. Craig’s love of the sea included deep-sea fishing and diving as well. He could also pilot a sailplane and skydive and was an accomplished skier and woodworker.

Craig passed away suddenly in the fall of 1998, after a truly courageous battle with lung cancer. During the sermon at his funeral mass, the priest commented that probably, when Craig got to the Pearly Gates, Saint Peter looked at the life he had lived and said “Wow!” Because Craig had truly embraced the world, from the depths of the ocean to the heights of the sky. Just as he embraced education and the experiences gathered every year at PFEW.