Dear Friend,

I remember the first time I met Jack McCarron. I think it was 2001, or shortly thereafter; he and his wife Bette had trailered their Boston Whaler from Ocean City to Millville to help in putting up an osprey nest. We were in desperate need of more watercrafts for volunteers and they answered the call. Jack struck me as quiet and efficient.

Later I found out he was very comfortable on the water, teaching windsurfing, whitewater river adventures, and sailing on Union Lake. I was shocked to read that he
was 81 when he passed. Jack looked much younger to me.

He always assisted with Wild About Cumberland. Bette is a retired teacher and he would say she was the real helper. But in truth he was also very engaged and involved with the logistics of having 600 school children visit the Delaware Bayshore over a couple of days.

As always I find out more about members when they pass, even those to whom I am very close. It's funny how we sometimes know people only within a certain context. I knew Jack was an attorney, but I did not know he and Bette volunteered for the Peace Corps nor that he was a supporter of Earthjustice. He was also very involved in CASA volunteering as an advocate for children.

Bette told me that he worked for a large partnership firm in Philadelphia where he was not in lockstep with the firm’s very formal lawyer attire, but chose a more relaxed appearance. She also told me that after his passing people contacted her to share stories about how he mentored them as younger staff and attorneys. Today many of these people have become lawyers who hold major positions in legal firms, organizations, and government. They credited his encouragement and assistance for what they achieved.

I spoke to Bette about his final days and his decision to maintain his dignity when he found out he had cancer, and only a few months to live. Bette said it was typical of Jack to deal with things “his way.”

Around me Jack was reticent, or possibly I was always simply too busy to focus and listen. But Jack always showed up when he was needed and did what had to be done. “His way” meant just that: helping others both in his profession and avocations.

Thanks, Jack, for having been there for us. You will be missed.

Our condolences to Bette and her sons Jeff and Robert, your husband and father was an outstanding person. Please see Jack’s obituary below to find out more about him.

Sincerely,

Jane Morton Galetto
CU Maurice River Board President

John McCarron
1940- March 24, 2022

John (Jack) R. McCarron of Ocean City, NJ, age 81, passed away on March 24, 2022 at home. Jack is survived by Bette (nee Raezer), his wife of 62 years, two sons Jeffrey (Kathryn) and Robert (Lori), granddaughters, Ashleigh and Emily and brother, David (Kate), and numerous nephews, nieces, grand nephews and grand nieces. Jack was
predeceased by his granddaughters, Sarah and Jacqueline, and his brother, Russell. He was a graduate of Radnor High School, Wesleyan University and Georgetown Law School.

Jack was a lawyer for a while. He represented clients in financing related transactions while engaged in private practice as a partner of Ballard Spahr, Philadelphia, Pa. But, once his sons were comfortably in college, Jack, along with Bette, volunteered for the Peace Corps. They were assigned to the Caribbean island country of Grenada, W.I. There, Jack worked to improve village infrastructure conditions and enjoyed cultural immersion. Once he returned home, Jack joined Meritor Financial Group, formerly Philadelphia Savings Fund Society (PSFS), as Exec. V.P. and General Counsel, until the bank's assets were sold. With the additional free time, Jack followed his passion for windsurfing as a participant and instructor.

Jack enjoyed the outdoors and outdoor activities, and went to many remote, wild places throughout the world on all seven continents. There were many family whitewater river and backpacking adventures. Jack, with Bette, shared the responsibility as wilderness trip leaders in Alaska. There, he could escape the sound of motors.

Jack strongly believed in environmental stewardship. He supported Earthjustice, 50 California St, Ste 500 San Francisco, CA 94111 "because the Earth needs a good lawyer." Jack shared his hope that others will also support Earthjustice.

Private memorial services. For condolences to the family, visit www.godfreyfuneralhome.com.