



Victor Harnack

July 29, 1927 - March 24, 2018

A celebration of life service will be held for Victor Harnack at 2:00pm, Friday April 20, 2018 at the. First United Methodist Church, 219 E 4th St, Bloomington. All who knew or were touched by him are invited.

Victor was born July 29, 1927 in Milan, Italy where his mother, Joy, was studying music with her then-husband. When he was three, he and his mother moved back to Manly, Iowa where she was from and where Victor grew up. Joy taught voice and piano most of her life and Victor followed in her footsteps. Joy remarried H. "Bob" Harnack who adopted Victor.

In 1946 Victor served in the Navy and sung in the Blue Jacket Choir. He met his wife, Martha, at a USO in Waukegan, Illinois where the choir was performing. They married in 1948 and were together for the next 62 years until Martha's death in 2010. They led a rich and exceptional life together, filled with music, theater, teaching, community service, travel, and family. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Spencer Harnack.

Victor taught communication at the Universities of Colorado at Boulder (10 years), and Illinois at Chicago (31 years). In 1996, Victor and Martha retired to Bloomington building their dream home tucked into the hardwood forest. The combination of a college town, IU's world class performing arts, and the beautiful surroundings were a perfect fit for them.

Surviving Victor are his sons and daughters-in-law, Doug and Patricia, and Hal and Gaylee Harnack, sister and her husband, Merry and Larry Hulse, granddaughters Alexandra, Lindsey, and Morgan (Webb), as well as many other extended family members. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Spenser Harnack.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to Shalom Center or other charitable organization of your choice.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ I had Victor's Argumentation and Debate class at UIC in 1980. He was outstanding! He taught reasoning and logical argument like a master. One of my finest teachers.

Syd Slobodnik - July 09, 2022 at 06:09 PM

BW

“ Victor was a delightful teacher. I remember a high point of my life was when he commented on a sentence I wrote: this is an “almost perfect” sentence!

Beth Waddel - June 20, 2022 at 02:25 PM

PO

“ Victor brought me onto the Board of Directors of the Bloomington Early Music Festival, and was always available to encourage me when I took over as Board President when he retired. I will miss seeing him at concerts and chatting with him about music and the world.

Potter - May 27, 2018 at 11:00 AM