



Roland E. Durette

May 2, 1932 - December 4, 2021

Roland Emile Durette, son of Emile and Marie Anne (Martin) Durette, died December 4 at the age of 89. He is survived by his four children, Marc Durette of Minocqua, WI; Luc Durette of Friday Harbor, WA; Katie Tubbesing of Overland Park, KS; and Anne Durette of Middleton, WI. His beloved wife Catherine duVair Durette died in 2008. Born in Manchester, NH on May 2, 1932, Roland is also survived by his seven brothers and sisters, Fr. Roberto Durette, OMI in Siglo XX, Bolivia; Pauline Rousseau in Melbourne Beach, FL; Bernadette Warren in Venice, FL; Paul Durette in Naples, FL; Andrew Durette in Venice, FL; Philippe Durette in Chagrin Falls, OH; and Rita Therrien in Manchester, NH.

After his elementary and secondary education in NH and Maine and service in the US Army stationed in Iceland, Roland received a BA degree in French studies from St. Anselm's College in Manchester, NH, an MA degree in French from Laval U. in Quebec City, CA, and a Ph.D. degree in education from Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL.

A devoted, generous, and loving father, son, brother, and grandfather, Roland was above all a family man. His other passions were piano playing, competitive tennis, and the French language. A Francophile and proud French Canadian, Roland was a dynamic professor of French at UW-Whitewater. He also taught language institutes first at Star Lake, WI, and then throughout

France with Catherine, providing graduate credit to French teachers nationwide. Many teachers repeated the course just to be with this exuberant team again.

Roland, “Papi” to his seven grandchildren, was a doting grandfather. Involved in their lives, he taught his grandchildren his values and was pleased to see them carry on his greatest loves in life including service, foreign languages, tennis, and music. His parents and seven siblings were also very dear to him.

Roland’s life cannot be summarized without mentioning his love of laughter and his engaging personality. He impacted and uplifted the lives of so many and is terribly missed.

Donations may be made to the Robert Durette Mission Fund at St. Mary's Bank, P.O. Box 990, Manchester, NH. A check should be made out to St Mary's Bank and include a note to deposit it to the Robert Durette Mission Fund (Account No. 800206542).

Tribute Wall

SS

“ *Susanne Schalles lit a candle in memory of Roland Durette*



Susanne Akins Schalles - February 24, 2023 at 05:09 PM

SS

“ *I just recently learned of Dr. Durette’s passing, and my heart goes out to his family. He was my French professor at UW-Whitewater during the mid 80’s and a great influence on my decision to pursue a master’s degree in French and then eventually to teach French at the community college level. He brought the language alive and wanted to share the joy of it with all of his students. So fun to also attend a gathering of students at his home as well. I was able to take part also in one of his French institutes in the summer of 1987. It was a privilege to learn from him and his wife Catherine and to participate in the many wonderful experiences they arranged for us. What a beautiful soul he was and I will always carry his wonderful memory with me.*

Susanne (Akins) Schalles - February 24, 2023 at 05:06 PM

KS

“ I graduated from UW Whitewater in 1974 and Monsieur Durette was the educator I tried to emulate in my teaching career. I took an independent study under his guidance and was allowed to assist and teach in one of his level 1 classes. Traveling in France with the Durettes, eating dinner at their home with fellow students, and attending Star Lake are treasured memories. One summer my husband and I played tennis doubles with them during free time. Watching a stage of the Tour de France with them sparked my passion for cycling. I was Team Lemond and Catherine was Team Hinault. Big hugs to all of you. The Durettes were exceptional people.

Kathleen C Schmidt - February 23, 2023 at 05:15 PM

MG

“ I just discovered this obituary. I took 2 years of French from Monsieur Durette at Roseman Elementary at UW-Whitewater. he was a wonderful teacher.

Marcia A Gascho - February 03, 2023 at 08:15 PM