

John "Jack" Nicolas Zneimer

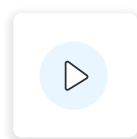




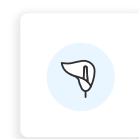
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John "Jack" Nicolas Zneimer of Sarasota, Florida died June 28, 2022 with his loving family by his side.

Jack, the son of Nicolas and Marion Zneimer, was born in Chicago, Illinois on July 3, 1925. Growing up he attended Morgan Park High School where he excelled in math studies.

At the young age of seventeen he joined the military and owing to his math abilities, was assigned to train as a navigator in the US Army Air Forces. He served honorably with the Eighth Airbourne stationed in Deenethorpe, England—the Eighth Airborne executed America's daylight strategic bombing campaign in WWII—and at nineteen became a decorated 1st Lt. Navigator on the Sorenson crew flying many missions across Nazi Germany as part of the 401st Bomb Group.

After the war he attended Ripon College in Wisconsin and met his future wife Eileen Hess. They fell in love and were soon married. After they moved to Manhattan their daughter Cary Marie

Zneimer was born while Jack attended Columbia University, receiving his master's degree in English Literature.

He went on to receive his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in Madison where his son John was born. Later, he became a professor at Indiana University Northwest and had two more children, Maud and Peter. He spent many years teaching English and creative writing classes at IU. Many of his students kept in touch over the years and remember him as a wonderful teacher who employed innovative ways to teach.

His love for literature and poetry remained a lifelong passion. He authored several poems and published a book called the Literary Vision of Liam O'Flaherty that was extensively reviewed in the New York Times Book Review section on January 3, 1971. After he retired, Jack fondly remembered his visit to his fellow professor's ashram in Australia where he was invited to give a guest lecture about poetry and stay at the ashram.

Jack had an adventurous spirit and took great pleasure in traveling to all the places that enriched his life. He and his wife would travel to Ireland and England to visit the graves and homes of beloved authors and writers. He also vividly recalled their time in London during the exciting Swinging Sixties.

He enjoyed vacations with his family too. Every summer he would pack the camping gear in the station wagon for a road trip. It was as fun as it was affordable—visiting everywhere from the Eastern Seaboard to the Rocky Mountains and lots of trips along the beautiful Michigan coast, Mackinac Island, and the lesser traveled Upper Peninsula. His eldest son will not soon forget the time their canoe capsized in a river out West! However, Jack's most memorable vacations were the many trips to France with Eileen. They both relished Paris with its wonderful food, architecture, and culture; but Jack had a special affinity for the French countryside and recalled being warmly welcomed at Farmhouse Inns across rural France and treated to home-cooked meals and camaraderie.

When he retired he moved to Sarasota, Florida where he would come to have wonderful neighbors and friends. He was an avid golfer and a superb cook—he enjoyed shopping at the local markets, attending the Sarasota Opera and the French Film Festival (where he sat next to Catherine Deneuve one year), fishing and exploring the Everglades with his sons, toasting the sunsets on the beach (his youngest daughter fondly remembers when they both saw an incredible 'green flash'), and just hanging out with family and friends.

He is survived by his three children; John Zneimer, Maud Zneimer (Michael), and Peter Zneimer (Sofia); his grandchildren, Ann (Andy), Aaron and Stephania; and his great-grandson Logan. His daughter Cary Zneimer Fairchild died in 2014 and Eileen Hess Zneimer passed away in 2020.

After a beautiful and dignified military service, Jack was buried at Sarasota National Cemetery on July 6th, 2022.

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