

ARNOLD GILBERT

Arnold Gilbert was born May 23, 1940 in Washington DC and educated in France. After preparing at Lycee Janson de Sailly in Paris, he joined our class, in our sophomore year, as an advanced standing student and a member of Lowell House, majoring in physics. After graduation (cum laude) he earned a PhD from Columbia University in 1965, also in physics.

After a brief period working in nuclear physics in Berkeley, his career took him to Washington, D.C. where he worked as an Applied Mathematician, Statistician, Systems Analyst, and computer expert in the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Commerce Department.

Arnold married Christine Condiff Karlik in 1980. He retired in 1999 and they moved to Longbranch, Washington, on the lee side of the Olympic Peninsula, where they pursued an active retirement. Christine's health deteriorated, however, and she predeceased him by a few months, in early 2016. Stepson Adam (Beloit College, 1991) is an executive chef in Tacoma.

At Harvard, and for some time afterwards, Arnold was somewhat active in Republican Party politics. One recalls that the Republican Party at that time included President Eisenhower, Jacob Javits, and Earl Warren, to name just a few. Arnold eventually became a registered Democrat, and told us proudly that he had caucused (in the state of Washington) for Bernie Sanders. One can take this as a change in Arnold, or as an indication of how the country has changed in the intervening period, or both.

Though Henry Wadzinski, Henry's wife Pauline, and Fred Safier enjoyed a pleasant reunion with Arnold in Berkeley on Bastille Day 2016, a scant two months later, on September 22, he died. Everybody who knew Arnold agrees that he was a warm and witty person and we miss him.