



## Edward F. Kramer, Jr.

July 30, 1934 - August 25, 2020

Edward F. Kramer, Jr., of Gloucester Township, NJ, passed away August 25, 2020. Ed was 86 years young with a twinkle in his eye and a bounce in his step. He loved his family and his friends and he loved golf.

His profession was his passion and if you are lucky enough to find that as he did, you will be blessed. He was a PGA Professional Golfer for over 50 years and Teaching Professional.

He gave lessons in the sport he loved to generations of golfers. He was an excellent teacher and was still teaching until recently at Valleybrook in Blackwood, NJ. More times than not he was stopped at the mall or the grocery store by a former student to say how he made their golf game better or taught them when they were young. He made so many connections in the community in this role as teacher. In 1990, Ed won the Philadelphia Section Senior Championship, an invitation to the Bell Atlantic Senior Classic and qualified for the PGA Senior Club Professional Championship.

Some of his favorite sayings were: "Just what I always wanted" to whatever gift he received, even if it was a tube of toothpaste; also "I liked it but it was a little slow" about a movie or tv show (James Bond Films excluded). This is exactly what his mother would say as well. He was his mother's son.

He will be dearly missed by family and friends and he will be welcomed by those who have gone on before him: His parents Edward F. Kramer, Sr. and Marie McCooley Kramer, his brother James Kramer, as well as other dear family and friends plus more than a few beloved pets.

He moved through life with an ease and a joy at knowing he had found the good things in life and always appreciated this. He grew up in a loving family and is survived by his brothers Richard Kramer and Jack Kramer; his sisters Patricia Kramer Yost and Nancy Kramer Watson. He was so fortunate to have found his wonderful wife of 53 years Eleanor

Morrissey Kramer, had two pretty awesome daughters, Kathleen Kramer and Carolyn Kramer. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews too numerous to list. He is also deeply missed by his sister in law Maureen Morrissey and brother in law Paul Wolansky. He made many lifelong friends along the way because he was the kind of person that others wanted to be around, knowing they had found a true friend.

Did we mention he got to play golf for a living? Heck of an office. He signed his last score card and finished under par with a hole in one.

For the safety of others during COVID-19, there will be no viewing. Family and friends may attend the Funeral Mass, Monday, August 31, 2020 at 11:00 AM, Our Lady of Hope Parish/ St. Agnes Church, 701 Little Gloucester Road, Blackwood, NJ 08012. (facial coverings and social distancing will be required)In lieu of flowers please send a donation in his name to the Food Bank of South Jersey, 1501 Tipton Blvd, Pennsauken, NJ 08110. Condolences may be shared at <http://www.earlefuneralhome.com>

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# Comments

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“ I was so touched by the memories posted here. I wanted to share the text of the eulogy for those who may not have been able to attend. Uncle Rick's eulogy is truly beautiful and it is loving and heartfelt.

What can I say about my brother Eddie? He was my mentor and role model. Eddie and our Dad loved sports and followed the Philly teams. They would sit down and watch a game on the weekend and then head outside to have a catch. I was 7 years old and Eddie was a teenager. I would follow them outside and sit on the steps and watch. One day Eddie said to Dad, “Let's get Ricky a glove”. From then on, I was part of the games.

Eddie would always include me and show me the best way to pick up ground ball, snag a fly ball or teach me a good batting stance. When Eddie graduated from high school he continued to play ball in the Philadelphia Ball Leagues and Dad would take me with him to see him play. He was a natural athlete, an infielder and a quarterback, but his best game was basketball. He was truly a great shooter, I saw him score 60 points in a game one night. He won League Scoring titles more than once. I wanted to be like Eddie.

He would take me to college basketball games at the old Palestra in Philly and to Eagles games at Franklin Field. Dad would get us tickets for the Phillies, they were great days.

But there was much more to Eddie than sports. He took me to his bank one day and showed me his bank account and explained that I should always save a portion of what I made. I should have listened to him.

He taught me how to drive in his 1955 Crown Victoria Ford, but after a few sessions he suggested I sign up for driving lessons at school, he said I might need professional help. I often wondered what he meant by that.

When I was trying out for baseball in high school he knew the varsity baseball coach and asked him how I was doing. The coach mentioned that to me and I thought that was great for him to care about my circumstances in high school. I remember when Eddie enlisted in the Army Reserves in 1955, it was in the service that the life changing event was about to happen.

One day the First Sergeant came into the barracks and asked if anyone was interested in trying out for the golf team. Eddie, having never picked up a golf club before, raised his hand thinking that it had to be better than whatever army training exercise was coming up next. Unbelievably he made the team. When he came home from the service, baseball, basketball and football all took a back seat. Any free time he had was devoted to golf. He began playing at FDR golf course in South Philly. The pro at the course noticed his ability and they began playing together. He introduced other pros in the area and formed lifelong friendships with many of them. Much to his surprise, the pro at FDR was retiring and recommended Eddie to the city for the job. He got the offer and took the risk of quitting a good paying job at the Philadelphia Bulletin and took the job. The next 5 years was devoted to earning his

PGA card and starting his new golf business. He put together a staff including our sister Pat and this new career was up and running. When his daughters Kathy and Carolyn came of age, they also worked at the shop. Our sister Nancy also helped out. I also worked for Eddie at the course and I really liked it. It was a godsend because it helped when I lost my job and I got to work with my big brother.

Eddie won seven tournaments over the course of this career against some of the best golfer in the Philadelphia area.

He was family oriented and visited our mother every Saturday. He stayed close to the family and attended family events. My favorite family get together was our family softball game in Eddie and Eleanor's backyard.

Eddie was a believer in our Lord Jesus Christ and I know he was there to welcome his faithful servant in. Mom, Dad, Jim, Alice, Joanie and Aunt Lily and so many others were there to welcome him

**Kathleen Kramer** - October 13, 2020 at 01:06 PM

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“ I've known Ed since I was 14 years old. That's when he married my dear sister Eleanor. He was a devoted husband for 53 years and a loving father to Kathy and Carolyn.

I have been inspired by Ed and I think it is summed up in the story of his introduction to golf. He was in the Army in the mid-1950s. The sergeant asked for volunteers to try out for the golf team. Ed hadn't ever played golf before but he was athletic so he raised his hand and said, "Yes." Of course that was the beginning of Ed's long relationship with golf.

But to me it was also symbolic of the way Ed lived. He optimistically said, "Yes" to life and was confident that it would all work out just fine. He was upbeat, always positive and kind. He was open to the good in people and in life. He had said "Yes" to the life God had gifted him with and I know he was grateful for it every day.

Yours was a life well-lived, Ed. You will be missed.

**Maureen Morrissey** - August 30, 2020 at 12:14 AM

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“ My brother Eddie was my oldest brother and also my Godfather. We were 15 years apart in age. We didn't see much of him around the house, he was always away playing golf somewhere, where it was sunny and warm. He was the only one of us who had his own room. Can you beat that, even when he wasn't there, his room was empty just waiting for his return. He was the king of the castle! Lol. I used to check his drawers for change, i think he put it there just for me, he never let on though!! It's hard to believe he's gone, i thought he'd always be there. Miss and love you dear brother. Until we meet again. I love you Your sister and godchild, Nancy..

**Nancy Kramer Watson** - August 29, 2020 at 09:03 PM

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“ We are so sadden to hear of the loss of Ed. Ed was a remarkable, kind, amazing & wonderful gentleman. Our daughter, Rileigh, had the pleasure & honor to have Ed as her golf instructor for 11 years. Over those 11 years the relationship between Ed & Rileigh grew into a grandfather- granddaughter relationship. Rileigh will always treasure the relationship she shared with Ed. We are so thankful & appreciative of Ed for sharing his love & compassion of the game of golf with Rileigh. Rileigh became the golf player she is today because of all the time Ed spent with her. We will miss the Saturday morning golf outings even the ones when they played in 30 degree weather. Every time Rileigh swings her golf club Ed will be with her. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. We shall keep you all in our prayers & in our hearts. We shall never forget Ed & his warm smile he shared with us all. Rest easy our dear friend.  
Mark, Jenn, Patrick & Rileigh Leighton

**Jennifer Turbett-Leighton** - August 29, 2020 at 10:33 AM

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“ Family reunions and gatherings with lots of baseball and softball in Uncle Ed's and Aunt Eleanor's backyard and commons! Every time we went there we knew we were going to have a good time! He (they) always made us feel welcome! Love you, Uncle Eddie!

**Kara Kramer McClenahan** - August 29, 2020 at 09:55 AM

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“ Please accept my sincere condolences for a loss that is felt by many. While there are so many memories with Ed, the greatest for me is and was that Ed was my Friend and I am lucky to have known him.

**Jim Asher** - August 27, 2020 at 09:38 PM



“ Ed Kramer and I were fellow PGA golf professionals for over 50 years. In 1987 I founded the Atlantic Winter Golf League and Ed won the first championship at the Avalon Golf Club. In addition to being a very good player, Ed was a very accomplished golf instructor/coach and has helped many folks to improve their games and increase their enjoyment. Sincere condolences to Ed's family and friends.  
Tom Smith, PGA

**Tom Smith** - August 27, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ Going to miss Ed looking up from the newspaper at Valleybrook always giving me a friendly “Hi Michele”. I am also thankful for my lessons from many years ago. Rest In Peace.

**Michele Kennedy** - August 28, 2020 at 06:13 AM



“ My childhood next door neighbor- The Kramers. - The best . When my Mom died, Ed was right there. Eddie and my Mom always talked about the Phillies. In fact Eddie put a red Philly Baseball cap in my Mom's casket to bring to heaven. Until we meet again. To Eleanor, his daughters and Jackie, Ricky, Patty and Nancy, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Love Bonnie Preston.

**Bonnie Preston** - August 28, 2020 at 04:34 PM



“ Separation from following Eddie Kramer for years. Eddie was the “older” role model for myself and many young men on Theodore Street. I grew up with His brother Rick Rickie) , Charlie Preston, Vincent Talluto....and other guys my age—Eddie always took time with us “young guys” to share sports stories .....and ALWAYS had a smile as big as could be. My prayers for his family...including his brothers and sisters. We had a GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD. RIP Ed Kramer

**Tom McCormack** - August 29, 2020 at 08:07 PM



“ Thank you Tommy

**Nancy Kramer Watson** - August 30, 2020 at 08:02 PM



“ Thank you Bonnie

**Nancy Kramer Watson** - August 30, 2020 at 08:03 PM



“ The oldest of six children, and the most loved by us all. We all looked up to him. I worked with him for twenty years at FDR golf Course and enjoyed the special bond that we had. Eddie was always happy if there was sports involved. He played all the sports over his younger years, and was good at them all. But golf was his chosen sport. I know there is a golf course in heaven just waiting for him. I will miss you always brother dear. Love your sister Pat.

**Patricia Yost** - August 30, 2020 at 08:30 PM