

CRYSTAL RIVER, FL – Ovian, Stephen, 94 of Crystal River, FL, formerly of Whitinsville MA, Sudbury MA, and Vero Beach, FL died peacefully on February 17, 2022. Stephen was born on May 31, 1927 in Whitinsville, MA to the late Abraham and Zarouhi (Murolian) Ovian.

Stephen left Northbridge High School to join the Navy, and when he returned, graduated from South High School in Worcester, MA. He was a veteran of WWII and the Korean War, and in 1954 received his commission in the Naval Research Reserve, retiring in 1972 with a rank of Lieutenant (junior grade). Stephen graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1951 with a BS in Food Technology, and in 1953 with a Masters of Dairy Science. Throughout his career he served in management and development positions in numerous New England companies including H.P. Hood, Ken's Salad Dressing, Cumberland Farms, Seymour's Ice Cream, and Columbo Yogurt. In 1982 he established his own company, Creative Foods and Flavors. He consulted in the industry until his retirement in March of 1993, many of those years primarily with Chiquita Brands International. Stephen was a member of Alpha Masonic Lodge in Framingham, MA and the Charles A. Rice American Legion Post in Uxbridge, MA.



Stephen was a sports lover, playing football, basketball and baseball in high school, and football and soccer in college. He was a lifelong fan of all Boston/New England teams, although he inexplicably also loved the Detroit Tigers. He was an avid golfer, earning two holes-in-one. He golfed right into his 90's.

Besides his parents, Stephen is predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Ann (Smart), daughter Donna Courtney, grandson James Courtney, two brothers Kayem Ovian and Nishan Ovian, and sister-in-law Victoria Ovian. He is survived by brothers Michael Ovian (Adrienne) and Karnig Ovian (Diana), Sister-In-Law Keene Ovian, and Son-In-Law Thomas Courtney; his children Nancy McLean, Stephen Ovian (Jean), Kathy Gilman (Richard), and Lisa Anderson (Steven); twelve grandchildren, Andrew (Heather), Matthew, Jennifer (William), Stephen, Katherine, Joshua, Rachel, Benjamin, Megan, Kyle (Jennifer), Henry and Charles; and seven great grandchildren, Carina, William, Hailey, Avery, Chase, Noah and Jack; and many beloved nieces, nephews and cousins.

A funeral service with burial to follow will be held at St. Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church in Whitinsville, MA, July 9, 2022 at 11 AM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church, 315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588.