

**In Memoriam: Fred Remington Whaley, Jr.**

On August 17, 2014, the Torch family lost one of its brightest luminaries, Fred Whaley Jr. Fred had served the Buffalo Torch Club well in the 1970s, becoming its president in 1975, and then expanding his Torch service as International President in 1980-81. A native of Buffalo, he sang at Cornell with the a cappella group Cayuga’s Waiters, and received his Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Buffalo.

The Whaley home in Kenmore was alive with music, his chemist father, Fred Sr. (himself a Buffalo Torch member, and subsequent founder of the Boca Raton Torch Club), and his brother David playing violin, and Fred playing the cello and singing in choruses and orchestras all his life. He and his first wife Carolyn raised two boys, Clark and Todd, and enjoyed life on the Lake Erie shore, as well as on their sailboat docked at the Buffalo Marina, where he was active in the Buffalo Power Squadron and Buffalo Yacht Club. During his IATC Presidency, Fred led an outstanding convention in Toledo that emphasized the region’s access to the other end of Lake Erie, where the Maumee River enters the lake’s western basin at the Port of Toledo. He famously encouraged Torch members to come to the convention by boat, leading by personal example. He later crafted the articles of incorporation for the Torch Foundation in 1979.

Fred was president of Buffalo’s Forest Lawn Cemetery for over three decades, opening the grounds to the public for individual strolling and organized tours, and bringing to fruition a long-planned project, Frank Lloyd Wright’s Blue Sky Mausoleum. In addition to his Torch leadership, he served as president of the Buffalo Rotary Club and the New York State Cemetery Associations, sang in the choirs of Buffalo’s First Presbyterian and Westminster Presbyterian churches, and anchored the cello section of the Amherst Symphony Orchestra in suburban Buffalo. He gave board service to the Buffalo Boys and Girls Club and the Crippled Children’s Camp, and was honored by the Erie County Historical Society in 2005 for his service to local history.

With his second wife, Mary Ann, a renowned mezzo soprano, he retired ten years ago to Stockton Springs, Maine, where both enjoyed singing with the Penobscot Bay Singers and the choir of St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in nearby Belfast. Mary Ann died July 29, just a month before Fred. .After a memorial service in Maine, Fred was buried in Buffalo’s Forest Lawn in a service attended by many Buffalo friends, including several from the Buffalo Torch Club.