

Larry Westerlund

RIP 5/25/2026

Lawrence “Larry” Hecker Westerlund, the son of Henry and Dallas Westerlund, born April 2, 1942, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He passed away on May 25, 2026, in Annapolis, Maryland, at the age of 84, surrounded by the love of his family. Raised in Houston, Texas, Larry earned a doctorate in Space Science from Rice University. A brilliant problem solver at heart, he built a distinguished career as a space scientist in the communications satellite industry. Rising to Vice President and General Manager at Comsat General, he pioneered the Comsat Maneuver, a landmark technique that extended the operational lifespan of communications satellites and is still in use today. In retirement, he continued his passion as a private consultant in the satellite insurance sector.

A lifelong sailor, Larry found deep joy racing and cruising the Chesapeake Bay aboard Chandelle. Nothing made him smile more than watching his grandchildren swim from the dock while Chandelle rested nearby in the Annapolis waters he loved. In retirement, he and Beverly spent many winters sailing to the Exuma Islands in the Bahamas.

Larry was a devoted husband to Beverly for 61 years, a loving father to Chuck and Wendy, and a proud grandfather and great-grandfather. Quiet, thoughtful, and calm, he shared his knowledge generously - whether teaching a grandchild to dock a boat, tinkering on a repair, or explaining how something worked. His grandchildren lovingly knew him as “Pop Pop,” and nothing brought him greater joy than spending time with family. He will be remembered for his quiet strength, gentle smile, steady presence, and deep love for those closest to him.

Larry is survived by his wife Beverly; his children Chuck and Wendy; his grandchildren Evan, Cameron, Justin, Julianna, Taylor, Mackenzie, Charlie; and his great-grandchildren Landon and Kaiya. Also survived by brothers Dick and Ed, nieces, nephews and many cousins.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to a charity of your choice. The family will gather for a private celebration of life at a later date.