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**Return to Obits**



**John G. Federico '56**

John G. Federico, 72 was a former environmental engineer. In 1961, John G. Federico was assigned by General Electric Co. to work on tracking satellites over the island of Ascension, midway across the South Atlantic. Though the job lasted for little more than a year, he used three weeks of accumulated leave time for a bit of an adventure.

"He flew to northern Brazil and left on a small river boat to go up the Amazon," said his daughter, Lisa McClatchy. After transferring to a smaller boat, he took a small plane over the Andes, which took four stops to get to Lima, she said. From that Peruvian capital, he trekked to his destination, the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu.

Mr. Federico, 72, a former environmental engineer, died of cancer Saturday, March 12, at his home in Center City Philadelphia. Born on the Italian island of Capri to an Italian American family, Mr. Federico came with his parents to the States during World War II. After graduating from West Catholic High School in 1956, he earned a bachelor's degree in physics at Villanova University in 1960.

His daughter said his career at General Electric ran from 1961 to 1975, first in the space sciences division and then in business planning. Until 1993, he was with Greeley & Hansen, a nationwide environmental engineering firm, where he worked on contracts for wastewater treatment with, among others, the cities of Camden and Philadelphia. Mr. Federico then struck out on his own in several ventures, such as importing Italian pasta from an office in Villanova and developing real estate projects from an office in Sea Isle City.

Besides his daughter, Mr. Federico is survived by his wife of 48 years, Evelyn; sons John and George; a brother; and three grandchildren.

A visitation was set from 9 to 10 a.m. Friday, March 18, at St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, 242 S. 20th St., Philadelphia, before a 10:30 a.m.

Funeral Mass there.

Burial is to be near his family home on Capri.

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