Jared Lloyd Darlington, Computer Scientist and Logician

Jared Lloyd Darlington, 86, of Michelbach, Germany, died on October 25, 2019 at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Gerolstein, Germany. In addition to his beloved wife Vehanoush (Vehan) Ourfalian, Jared leaves his brother Richard Benjamin Darlington and sister-in-law Elizabeth Day Darlington of Ithaca, NY; his brother-in-law Alburt Rosenberg of Harwich, MA; his sisters-in-law Jeanne Darlington of South Hadley, MA and Hasmig Breitem of Armenia; and numerous nieces and nephews and their spouses and children. He was predeceased by his sisters, Esther Collins Darlington and Catharine Bender Darlington, and his brothers Charles Leroy Darlington and Robert Palmer Darlington.

He was born to Charles Joseph Darlington and Eleanor Collins Darlington on October 12, 1933 in Woodbury, NJ, United States, and grew up in Woodstown, NJ. Jared graduated from George School in Newtown, PA in 1950, and Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, PA in 1954. He earned an M.A. in 1956 and Ph.D. in 1957 from Yale University, where he specialized in the branch of logic now known as computer science. He then taught philosophy at Connecticut College and at Wellesley College, where he met Vehan. After they married in 1960, Jared worked at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Research Laboratory of Electronics on projects including early efforts to use computers to process languages. They moved to Italy and then Germany, where Jared was a computer science researcher from 1965 to 1998 at Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Instrumentelle Mathematik, Gesellschaft für Mathematik und Datenverarbeitung m.b.H. in Bonn.

As a child in rural southern New Jersey, Jared was sociable and fun-loving, with a strong sense of justice instilled by his Quaker upbringing. At that time, Woodstown’s movie theater enforced illegal racial segregation. One day in 1953, Jared and his younger brother, Dick, challenged this practice by sitting in the section designated for black moviegoers. The angry owner physically ejected them, but the incident led their father to take action that resulted in ending the theater’s forced racial segregation.

Jared had a keen wit and was a skilled writer. In 2006 he recounted his experiences in the early days of computing in the entertaining essay, “One Boy’s Boston” (http://jareddarlington.blogspot.com/). Later he and Vehan helped Vehan’s friend Harout Kahvedjian proofread the book From the Red Desert to Jerusalem (2014), about his father Elia’s survival of the Armenian genocide and adult life in Jerusalem.

Jared enjoyed a quiet, independent life with Vehan in the beautiful German countryside, especially their lovely view, their garden and birdhouses, and their cats. He enjoyed scenic drives, fine cuisine, classical music, and books from his large and varied library.

The family invites you to make a memorial donation to a charity of your choice.