Nicholas B. Tournillon

September 1, 1933 - March 3, 2025

Nicholas B. Tournillon, age 91, beloved husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, and great grandfather passed away peacefully March 3, 2025, with family by his side.

Nick was born on September 1, 1933, in New Orleans, LA. He was the son of the late Samuel Chopin Tournillon and Anna Mae (Brady) Tournillon. Raised in New Orleans, LA he attended private elementary and secondary school with a partial music scholarship. He met and married his wife of 66 years, Audrey Mae (Nicosia) Tournillon, who preceded him in death just a year and a half earlier. Nick then attended Southeastern Louisiana University, where he received his B.A. degree in business, finishing in the top 12 of his class of 1958. His M.B.A. from Louisiana State University emphasized work in Finance and Economics, with some fellowship teaching, and was completed in 1960.

Nick then joined the Export-Import Bank of the United States in Washington DC as a financial economist. He progressed to a Senior Loan Officer, where he became known as a creative and innovative financier developing project financing in all parts of the world, principally in the Far East. In the process of structuring financings he negotiated with US and non-US corporate officers, investment bankers, and heads of Central Banks and other foreign government offices. Nick's expertise then brought him and his family to Manila, Philippines and Atlantic Gulf & Pacific Co. of Manila, where he served

as the Administrative and Financial Assistant to the President of AG&P. Nick played a pivotal role in negotiating contracts including a joint venture with a major US contractor and a protracted renegotiation of contracts with a major Japanese steel company along with developing various high level financing programs, including the company's manufactured products. Nick also made special management studies and reports and did some writing for the President and Executive Vice President. After a 2-year stint in the Philippines, Nick and his family returned to the US and planted roots in New York (Rye) and Connecticut (Greenwich) where he worked for GTE International for 20-plus years. Nick's principal responsibilities included export and project financing in support of sales from GTE's world-wide manufacturing facilities which required negotiation with government agencies of importing and exporting countries, multinational financing agencies, commercial and merchant banks in packaging project financings varying in size from less than $1 million to more than $500 million. Nick was quickly promoted from Assistant Treasurer to Treasurer in 1976 where his responsibilities included the supervision of his department's 25 professionals in performance of all long and short-term financing, cash and working capital management and foreign currency asset management, including over $300 million of futures contracts annually. Nick also oversaw capital structure and dividend planning, capital budgeting and customer financing for exports from the US, Canada, Italy and Belgium. Nick later was named to the additional role Vice President of GTE International Finance Corp. and to Treasurer of 23 foreign subsidiaries.

Other accomplishments acknowledgements in Nick's storied career include: International Advisory Board - Union Trust Company; Original Board of Governors - War Risk Reciprocal affiliated with US Overseas Private Investment Company and a subsidiary of US Agency for International Development Agency; Appointed to an Advisor To The Regan Administration; Named to the Financial Executives Institute; Standard & Poor's Register of Officers and Directors; Listed in the 1979-80 Marquis Who's Who in Finance

in the East as well as listed in Marquis Who's Who in America.

Nick and Audrey spent a long rich life together traveling the world and raising their six children. He was a great father, provided much support to his children and bestowed a wealth of knowledge to them. In addition to his wife, Audrey, Nick was preceded in death by his sister June Bevan Canfill, his brother Samuel Chopin Tournillon Jr. ("Kunk"), and his first born, Brady Tournillon of Stamford, CT. Nick is survived by Linda Kenney (Ron Kline) of Martinez, CA; Tracy Verdon (Ken Verdon) of Conway, SC; Jeff Tournillon of Chicago, IL; Greg Tournillon (Janis Tournillon) of Chesterfield, MO and Lori McCloskey (Matthew McCloskey) of Stanhope, NJ. Grandfather of six, Sean Kenney (Ellen Kenney); Dana Verdon; Nicholas Verdon; Amanda Tournillon, Kyle Tournillon, Callie Tournillon. And one Great Grandchild, Nora Catherine Kenney.
During his 40 years living in New York and Connecticut, Nick was active in his children's activities in school and in sports, and took great pride in his children's accomplishments. Family was very important to Nick, and that included his extended family in New Orleans.

In addition to his immediate family, Nick will be incredibly missed and remembered by his beloved extended family, nieces, nephews, sister-in-law and all New Orleans family. Nick cherished life, laughter and loved ones. He treasured being with his large family and that provided a great sense of joy and happiness. Nick was also very fond of family celebrations and vacations, which are certain to leave lasting memories for many. We would like to think he was celebrating this year's Mardi Gras in heaven in epic form.
In addition to family activities, Nick sang with the group "Melody Men" of the Greenwich Retired Mens Association (RMA). Through RMA, Nick participated in various volunteer activities, including when the group proudly sang "The Star Spangled Banner" before a New York Mets baseball game. Nick founded

a nonprofit organization, named Greenwich Pro Cristo, based on the name of his bowling and social league, Pro Cristo. This group helped private individuals who lost their homes along the Mississippi Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Nick was a lifelong practicing Catholic, and current parishioner of St. James Parish in Conway, South Carolina. He was previously an active member/parishioner of St. Mary Parish in Greenwich, Connecticut. He was also an active member of the choir for both parishes. His Catholic roots stem from his parents and his upbringing in the Catholic school system as a child.

A funeral mass will be held at St James Church in Conway on Tuesday, March 11, 2023 at 12:00 pm with a reception to follow. His final resting place will be in Greenwich, CT alongside his wife, Audrey and son, Brady.

In lieu of flowers; memorial contributions can be made to American Macular Degeneration Foundation at www.macular.org Or Alzheimers Association at https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2df_id=32112&32112.donation=form1

Please sign the online guest register at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel, is in charge of local services.

Previous Events

Mass

MAR **11**. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. James Catholic Church
1071 Academy Drive
Conway, SC 29526

Tribute Wall

DA

My deepest condolences to the family, I know God will be with you at this time of great loss.
Dorothy Anderson and Michael Mccloskey

Dorothy Anderson - March 11, 2025 at 11:56 AM

WL

Nick and Audrey were great friends of Southeastern. Nick was Alumnus of the Year, a valued board member and a most generous donor of scholarships for our College of Business students. We are placing a brick in Friendship Circle in memory of Nick. Thank you for the many years and phone calls we shared.

Wendy J Lauderdale - March 10, 2025 at 01:25 PM

DS

Our condolences to the members of the Tournillion family. Dan, Dot, Dennis, Laura, Cathy, and Jay

Daniel Sullivan - March 10, 2025 at 04:17 PM

TA

Terri A. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Nicholas B. Tournillon.

Terri A. - March 09, 2025 at 05:05 PM

Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Nicholas B. Tournillon.

March 08, 2025 at 12:05 PM

A Memorial Tree was planted in honor of Nicholas B. Tournillon.

March 08, 2025 at 12:05 PM

SS

I met Nick when he became a choir member of our Catholic Church, St. James of Conway, SC. Nick had a beautiful voice and was a Blessing to our choir. He and Audrey always attended our functions and had such a good time. They loved our Sunday morning breakfasts after the church service where we all shared what was happening in our lives. Nick continued coming after Audrey's passing but missed her as we all did. We will definitely miss him as he was a special man and friend. My heart is so sad but I know he is with his beautiful lady again. God Bless you Nick and thanks for the memories!

Shirley Snide - March 06, 2025 at 04:29 PM