

## Rivelli, William R. 1935 - 2024

William R. Rivelli passed away on January 16, 2024 in New York City. Born in Providence RI in 1935, he was a loving husband and father yet, most notably, a successful and well-respected photographer. He discovered his passion for photography at the age of twelve and pursued it as an amateur until he turned pro at age twenty-five. After graduating from Brown University in 1957 he moved to New York City to pursue a business career and jumped at the opportunity to be an assistant to Life Magazine photographer, Nina Leen. After Ms. Leen's rigorous training, Mr Rivelli assisted several prominent photographers in a variety disciplines culminating with Ralph Steiner who became his mentor and lifelong friend. In 1963, with a clear vision and skills honed, he opened his own studio with many fashion clients but navigated toward corporate and industrial photography with its vast array of subjects, locations and visual challenges. Mr. Rivelli became one of the most in demand Annual Report photographers during the genre's heyday at the end of the 20th Century. His assignments took him around the world many times for corporate, graphic design and advertising clients. He was praised for his "eye," astute technical skill, and his ability to master all situations, whether in the studio or on location. Mr. Rivelli was also active in the American Society of Media Photographers. As a Board member, he created articles, lectured to chapters around the country, and created a correspondence template to improve the business relationship between clients and independent photographers. Mr. Rivelli also pursued personal projects throughout his 50 year career; among them, a portfolio of images from the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, images documenting the five-year renovation of the United Nations building, and a commissioned portfolio of black-and-white art prints depicting the resilience of Citibank employees post 9/11. Mr. Rivelli was predeceased by his first wife, Margaret Cronin in 1972 and his first son, William D. Rivelli in 1995. He is survived by his current wife and partner, Cynthia Rivelli; his daughter, Dr. Sarah Rivelli and her husband, Dr. Xavier Preud'homme; his son, Taylor Rivelli and wife, Colleen Cintron-Rivelli as well as three grandchildren: Guillaume, Sofia and Zenna. Burial and memorial events will be announced and take place in the spring.