

Published in Star-Gazette from June 4 to June 8, 2014



Dennis Holly, 63, of Hoboken, NJ, died Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City. Born to the late Carl R. and Marie E. (Dean) Holly, February 1, 1951, in Elmira, Dennis graduated from Elmira Southside High School in 1968 and attended the [University of Michigan](#) in Ann Arbor, as well as The Julliard School in New York City. A musician and avid tennis fan, Dennis' hobbies also included film, photography, travel, and theater. Dennis was always a leader and a Renaissance man, having had four successful careers. In high school, he was student council president.

He loved music and sang in several choirs and played saxophone in the wind ensemble, the marching band and the dance band. His interest in music led to both a bachelor's and a master's degree in composition from The Julliard School. Dennis had always been a film buff and wrote about the Oscars in Variety and The New York Post. He published an internet film- and award-oriented blog called "Holly's Holograph" ([www.dennisholly.com](http://www.dennisholly.com)), where he also provided collections of his photographs from his travels. Dennis also had a successful career as an actor and singer until illness forced a career change. Dennis was always passionate about making a difference in the lives of others. He next turned his talents to legal training administration where, in October 1991, Dennis founded the Professional Legal Trainers Group (PLTG) in New York City and served as its president for four years. This organization ([www.pltg.org](http://www.pltg.org)) continues to provide a forum in the metropolitan New York City area to share knowledge, resources, and experience for training and support professionals in the legal technology industry. Its "Holly Award" is presented annually to a member for outstanding service to PLTG. In his final career, Dennis earned his master's degree in social work from the [New York University](#), Silver School of Social Work in New York City and became a psychotherapist. At the time of his passing, he was a beloved second year psychoanalytic candidate at the National Institute for the Psychotherapies (NIP) in New York City. He also practiced as a staff therapist at the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy (ICP) in New York. He was a passionate and dedicated clinician. He loved his new life in psychoanalysis but accepted his terminal diagnosis with grace and dignity. Dennis is survived by his twin brother, Douglas and Cynthia Holly (Phoenix, AZ); sister, Caryl Cammer (Elmira); brother, David and Kathy (Rochester, NY); brother, Donald and Phyllis (Chicago, IL); sister, Linda Holly (Pine City, NY); eight nieces and four nephews; three great-nephews and one great-niece; three aunts and an uncle; and several cousins. He is also survived by Elizabeth Bernard Pettit, his traveling companion and partner in the appreciation of the arts and through their joint connection to psychoanalysis. Dennis was preceded in death by his brother, Ronald, in 1957. Contributions in Dennis' memory can be made to The Candidate Scholarship Fund, National Institute for the Psychotherapies (NIP), 250 West 57th Street, Suite 501, New York, NY 10107. A memorial service for Dennis will be held at the NIP in New York City on Monday, June 16, 7 to 9 p.m. Arrangements were entrusted to Failla Memorial Home ([www.faillamemorialhome.com](http://www.faillamemorialhome.com)) of Hoboken.