

## Half Staff – John W. Leahy

November 4, 2011



John W. Leahy, 79, of Littleton, MA, Rockport, MA and Bonita Springs, FL, died peacefully at his Rockport home on November 4, 2011, with his children present. The only child of William Edward Leahy and Charlotte (Woodbury) Leahy, John was born in Littleton, MA on April 27, 1932. John graduated from Fenn School, Belmont Hill and Brown University in 1950. Then he later furthered his education at the School of Transportation at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

He was drafted in 1956. While in the army, he developed an accountability system for parts purchasing that was used as a model nationally. He took over the family trucking business, M.W. Leahy Co., Inc., in 1959, and served as chief executive until 2005. He was highly regarded in the trucking industry, and served as President of the Mass Motor Truck Association; 1st Chair of the American Trucking Association; and the Executive Committee of the Contract Carriers Association. He also served on the Town of Littleton Conservation Committee for 16 years and as Chairman for a portion of that time. He was active with the Littleton Rotary Club, where he served as President 1 year.

John married Betty Ann Rapp on September 10, 1955, and together they had two children. He was happily married to Betty for 37 years until her death in 1992. He later married Mary Croy in 2003 until her death in 2008.

An avid sailor from age seven, he raced and sailed various class boats from a fishboat, to starboat to his current boat a J35C. He skillfully won many races in the Cape Ann area. He served on the Board of Governors of the Sandy Bay Yacht Club for 8 years. His other love was golfing and was a member of the San Carlos Golf Club of Fort Myers serving on the Board for 6 years. He proudly sank three holes-in-one.

He was a kind, considerate father who passed on his love of animals, sailing, travel, and helping of others. He was an elegant and gentle man who will be missed greatly by all that knew him.

John is survived by Michael and Janice (Howard) Leahy, of Littleton, and Elizabeth Leahy of Rockport; grandson Sean Leahy of Littleton; stepchildren Michael and Paul Croy, both of Littleton, and Mark Croy of New Ipswich, N.H., Patricia Legenza of Littleton, Joanne Croy of Shirley, and Meg Kelly of Tyngsborough.

Visiting hours will be held at the Badger Funeral Home, 347 King St., Littleton, MA on Friday, Nov. 11, 5 – 8 pm and in the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport, MA on Saturday, Nov. 12, 5 – 8 pm. Relatives and friends are cordially invited. A Memorial Service will be held at the Sandy Bay Yacht Club in the spring of 2012. In lieu of flowers, contributions

may be made in his memory to the Sandy Bay Yacht Club Sailing Program, P.O. Box 37, Rockport, MA 01966 or to the Susan G. Komen For the Cure (Breast Cancer) , P.O. Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265-0309. Arrangements are by the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport, MA 01966. For online condolences, guestbook and directions, please visit [greelyfuneralhome.com](http://greelyfuneralhome.com).