

Half Staff – Carlton K. Brown

December 16, 2005

Carlton K. Brown, 94, former tree warden for the town of Rockport, husband of the late Eleanor (Wilson) Brown, of 3 Broadway Ave., Rockport, died on Friday, December 16, 2005, at Den-Mar Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Rockport. Born in Rockport on Feb. 7, 1911, he was the son of the late Alvin S. and Caroline (Sears) Brown. Mr. Brown was a graduate of Rockport High School and Essex County Agricultural School.

One of his first jobs was at the age of 14, delivering special delivery letters on his bicycle for the U.S. Postal Service. Following his graduation from Essex Aggie, he worked as a gardener on the Blood Estate in Lynnfield, as well as on the Taylor Estate in Gloucester. He also worked for more than two years at the former Cape Ann Tool Co.

In 1946, Mr. Brown was elected tree warden and was re-elected to that position until 1960. In that year, Mr. Brown was appointed forestry superintendent and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1974. He was also a member of the Rockport Fire Department from 1945 until 1971.

Mr. Brown was very civic-minded and over the years worked on many projects that helped beautify the town that he loved. In 1992, a Resolution of Appreciation was signed by the board of selectmen for his many years of service to the town of Rockport.

In his early retirement years, he and his wife traveled extensively, often to a warmer climate during the winter months. They were both very active square dancers and attended many square dance conventions across the country.

Mr. Brown had a very busy and active life. He was an avid sailor and a longtime member of Sandy Bay Yacht Club. For many years, he was a highly competitive sailor and won many awards for his sailing skills. In recent years, he was content to just sail recreationally aboard his 26-foot sloop Ocean Wave. He was well into his 80s before he stopped taking his boat out without an additional crewmember. In addition to sailing, Mr. Brown enjoyed taking care of his property, especially his gardens, dancing, reading, and music. During the last decade his dancing took center stage, especially at Gloucester Elks and the Peabody Senior Center. When the music played, it was not uncommon for him to dance every dance.

Mr. Brown was a member of the Ashler Lodge A.F. & A.M., Rockport Conservation Committee, North Shore Horticultural Society, First Congregational Church of Rockport, BPOE Elks Lodge 892, Massachusetts Tree Wardens Association, and the Thacher Island Association.

He is survived by his sons, Ronald W. Brown and his wife, Donna, of Rockport, and Douglas V. Brown; his grandsons, Randall W. Brown and Jeffrey S. Brown; granddaughter, Allison Williams and her husband, Robert, all of Rockport; a brother, Myron W. Brown and his wife Marguerite, of Rockport; a very special sister-in-law, Elizabeth Engel and her husband Dr. Theodore Engel, of Rockport; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements: His funeral service will be held in the First Congregational Church on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 10 a.m. The burial will be held in Locust Grove Cemetery, Lanesville. Visiting hours will be held on Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. in the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Sandy Bay Yacht Club, P.O. Box 37, Rockport, MA 01966 or to the First Congregation Church, 12 School St., Rockport, MA 01966 or to a charity of one's choice.