Half Staff – Robert J. Brown

March 7, 2015

WENHAM, MA: Robert J. Brown, 95, of Wenham, Mass., died March 7, 2015, after a brief illness. Brown was born in Beverly, Mass., and educated in Beverly schools, at Worcester Academy and at Amherst College.

As a young man, he enjoyed a sword fishing adventure and fishing trip to Labradour. These trips combined with his love of Beverly harbor instilled in him a lifelong love of the sea.

He was employed at New England Telephone in 1940 and left the company from 1941 to 1946 to serve in the U.S. Navy during World War II, attaining the rank of Lieutenant. He served in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of wars. After the war, he returned to New England Telephone, where he held many positions of increasing responsibility in New Hampshire and Massachusetts and served at American Telephone and Telegraph in New York City. His favorite assignment occurred during the 1960 Presidential campaign when Mr. Brown was assigned to the staff of Henry Cabot Lodge to coordinate communications facilities for the Vice Presidential nominee's staff and accompanying press. He retired from New England Telephone in 1981.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Averille Marshall Brown of Easton, Md.; his daughter, Janis Brown of Beverly; and his son, Russell P. Brown of West Ossippee, N.H. Surviving him are his wife, Polly Brown; his sons, Robert M. Brown and Charles B. Brown; his grandson, Elliott Brown; and his great-grandson, Nathaniel Brown.

Funeral services will be private. A reception celebrating his life will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Care Dimensions, 75 Sylvan St., Danvers, MA 01923 or Sandy Bay Yacht Club, 5 T-Wharf, Rockport, MA 01966. Information, directions, condolences at www.campbellfuneral.com.