

Half Staff – John R. Rapp Jr.

October 20, 2009



ROCKPORT — John R. “Jack” Rapp Jr., 89, husband of Ruth S. (Anderson) Rapp, of Rockport and Bonita Springs, Fla., died on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2009 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born in Rockport on March 20, 1920, son of the late John R. Rapp Sr. and Gertrude (Upham) Rapp.

Jack was a graduate of Rockport High School with the Class of 1938. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, having spent four years in Australia living in a tent – after which he and his family never went camping again.

Following his service in the Army, he went to work for New England Tel and Tel for 37 years until his retirement at the age of 62. After retiring, he spent winters in Bonita Springs, Fla.

Jack was a longtime member of the Sandy Bay Yacht Club and had raced fish boats, I-boats and star boats. He also sailed turnabouts in Frost Bite series and ice boated. His boats were recognizable by the name “Rapsody” and his wife Ruth had always served as his faithful crew.

He was a life member of the Edward Peterson Post 98 Rockport American Legion and he proudly marched in the Memorial Day parade every year.

Jack and Ruth were longtime avid golfers and members of the Rockport Country Club and the San Carlos Golf Club in Bonita Springs. He was also a member of the Lodge of Elks in Bonita Springs.

Jack loved to dance, swim and play golf with Ruth. He enjoyed skiing, playing with his grandchildren and passing on to them his love of music, dancing, sailing and skiing.

Jack had a wonderful retirement, full of life. He made many friends and loved any opportunity to play. No matter what was going on, he could lay his burdens down and enjoy the moment. He set a great example and will be sorely missed.

In addition to his wife Ruth of 64 years, he is survived by his sons, Steve Rapp and wife Paula of Steamboat, Colo., William Rapp and wife Courtney of Rockport; daughter, Nancy Rapp of San Diego; grandchildren, Jessie Rapp, Corey Rapp and wife Tiffany, Rechele Jordow and husband Nikalas, Dan Rapp and wife Kristen, Jed Goldstein, Olivia Goldstein; great-grandchildren, Hannah and Nellie Jordow, Kaidin Rapp, Isabella Rapp, Jack Rapp and Evan Rapp. He was predeceased by his sister, Betty Rapp.

ARRANGEMENTS: A memorial service will be held in the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport, on Thursday, Oct. 22 at 2 p.m. Family and friends are cordially invited to attend. The burial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his name to the VNA Care Network, 5 Federal St., Danvers, MA 01923.