

Half Staff – Donald L. Pitman, 91

December 18, 2007

Donald Lloyd Pitman, 91, passed away on Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at the Addison Gilbert Hospital after a long illness. He was born in New York on March 3, 1916, son of the late George and Anna (McRoberts) Pitman.

He graduated from Brooklyn Technical Polytechnic Institute. He was a star basketball player in college. After graduation he joined the Marine Air Corps for a short period. He then worked at Worthington Corp. in Holyoke, in the engineering department. In 1941, he joined the Navy and was stationed at the Glen Martin Co. as a naval aircraft inspector. He retired from the Navy in 1945 as a Lieutenant Commander.

He returned to Worthington Corp. as a Design Engineer. He worked for a short time at Hamilton Standard in Winsor Locks, Conn., then went to work for General Electric in Bloomfield, N.J. In 1958 he accepted a job as chief engineer at the Newark Ohio Co. in Newark, Ohio, a manufacturer of lawn mowers. He was there until 1968 when he moved to Nashville, Tenn. to work at the Murray Ohio Mfg. Co. as vice president of engineering. While at Murray he was instrumental in putting them into the lawn mower business, and they became one of the largest producers of lawn mowers in the country.

An avid golfer and sailor, he also restored MG and Jaguar sports cars. When he retired, he moved to Rockport, and served on the Board of Directors of the Rockport Golf Club and Sandy Bay Yacht Club. He was very active with these groups and also took up carving of wooden decoys. He was also a member of the Edward Peterson Post 98 Rockport American Legion.

He is survived by his wife, Christine and enjoyed 66 years of marriage. He is also survived by his five children, Donald L. Jr. and wife Carol of Vero Beach, Fla., Judy Pastor of Rockledge, Fla., Susan Pitman of Rosemont, Pa., Richard Pitman and wife Carol of Nashville, Nancy Mears and husband Eric of Rockport; grandchildren, Donald III and wife Stephanie, Christie Kron and husband David, Michael Pitman, Allison Pastor, Sarah Pitman, Derek and Dylan Pitman, Joshua, Timothy and Danny Mears; great-grandchildren, Madison Pitman, Jordan and Sydney Kron and Mazi Pitman.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother Robert.

ARRANGEMENTS: A memorial service will be held in St. Mary's Episcopal Church at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his name to the Rockport Educational Foundation, 24 Jerden's Lane, Rockport, MA 01966 designated for the music department of the high school. Arrangements are being conducted by the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport.