



GERALD E. VERMETTE, DDS

SKOWHEGAN - Gerald E. Vermette, 85, passed away at home, surrounded by his family on February 27, 2016.

He was born on Dec. 4, 1930, in Caribou, Maine, the oldest son of Samuel Vermette and Edith Chaloult-Vermette and grew up with his four siblings on the family potato farm.

He attended Assumption Preparatory School in Worcester, Mass. and then Assumption College.

On July 20, 1953, he married Ruth Ouillette, also from Caribou. They lived in the Washington, DC, area for several years, while Ruth taught school and Jerry obtained his doctorate in dentistry at Georgetown University.

Upon graduating, Jerry entered the Army. From 1955-1957 he was a military dentist with the rank of captain, serving at Brooks Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, and at Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia.

In 1957, he and Ruth returned to Maine to set up his dental practice in Skowhegan, where they would raise their six children and turn their house into a home-stand for its many visitors.

Jerry was a member of Notre Dame Roman Catholic Church in Skowhegan and very active in his faith. He served as president of the parish council, chairman of the worship and spirituality commission, as a lay minister, and as a Grand Knight of the Somerset Council of Knights of Columbus. He also made a Cursillo and then served on the teams that gave the retreat. He was instrumental in bringing the first Cursillo to northern Maine.

He served as president of the Skowhegan Lions Club and the Toastmasters Club. He was a member of the town's Planning Board and Recreation Committee. He served on the Regional Board of Boy Scouts of America and on the Board of Trustees for the Assumption College Alumni Association.

Jerry enjoyed sharing his abilities in sports with the family, including downhill skiing, tennis, basketball, ping-pong, and pool. He loved to travel and he and Ruth made many winter trips to St. Maarten's in later years.

Dr. Vermette's profession was his passion. In the 1980s, he became the first Maine dentist to practice mercury-free dentistry, convinced it was in the best interest of his patients. He formed the Dirigo Dental Study Group with other dentists who shared his passion for "holistic" dentistry. The group supported him when he had to go before the

Dental Board and when he pushed for state legislation to remove mercury from dentistry. In 2002, then Governor Angus King signed into law a bill requiring Maine dentists to inform their patients that malgam fillings contain 40-50 percent mercury and the health and environmental concerns with using dental amalgam. He also helped set up Maine's dental clinic for low-income people and helped to promote dental health in Maine schools.

Among his professional accreditations, Jerry was: a Member of the American Dental Association, Past President of the Kennebec Valley Dental Association, Past President of the Maine Academy of General Dentistry, a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, a

Fellow in the Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation, a Member of the L.D. Pankey Dental Foundation, a Member of the International Academy of Preventive Medicine, an Associate Member of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology, and a Member of the Holistic Dental Association.

Dr. Vermette was innovative, always working to bring the newest technology into his practice. Gov. Angus King presented him with an award for being the first dentist in Maine to install a mercury separator in his dental facility, which protects water supply from mercury contamination from old fillings removed during the drilling process. All dental offices are now required to have these separators installed in their facilities.

The success of his private practice was largely attributed to his lifelong learning and passion for thinking "outside the box" in support of his patients. He will be missed immensely by all those who are forever changed through his gifted hands. His staff is forever grateful for the opportunities he presented to them. He had a special way of sparking interest in each person and made it his mission to feed that spark through education, understanding and opportunity.

Reflecting on his life, Jerry said he hoped people would remember the unity and love among his family members, the many friendships he made with his neighbors and through his profession, and his faith in God. "Everything that happened is the result of the grace and love of God and the pursuit of the truth," he said.

Jerry is predeceased by his parents; his brothers, Conrad, Bob and Gildo; a sister, Gertrude; and his beloved wife, Ruth.

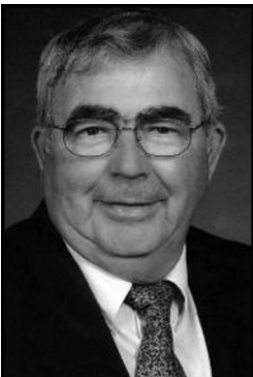
He is survived by his children, Jean (and her partner Chris), Michael (and his wife Debbie), Mary (and her partner Scott and her daughter Lael Bolduc), David (and his wife Dori and their sons Spencer and Austin), Peter (and his partner, Mary) and Danielle (and her partner, Peter). He also is survived by his sister, Anne; his sister, Ronella; numerous nieces and nephews, a large extended family, and countless friends and clients from around the world.

The family would especially like to thank all the friends, neighbors, doctors, nurses, professional associates, and hospice workers who offered and gave their help and friendship to Jerry and the rest of the family over the years and especially during his final months among us.

There will be a private viewing for family members at Smart-Edwards funeral home. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11am, Friday, March 4, 2016 at Notre Dame de Lourdes Catholic Church, 273 Water Street, Skowhegan. Interment will be in spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Anthony's Soup Kitchen, c/o Notre Dame de Lourdes Church, 273 Water St., Skowhegan, ME 04976 or New Hope Women's Shelter, 111 South Main St., Solon, ME 04979.

Arrangement are under the care and direction of Smart & Edwards Funeral Home, 183 Madison Ave., Skowhegan, ME



HARRY R. ESTES, II

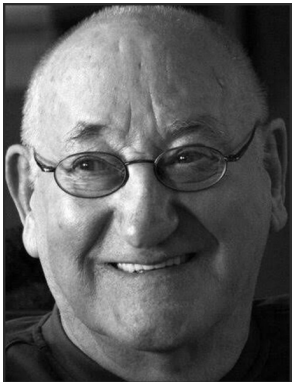
BREWER - Harry R. Estes, II, 84, husband of Shirley (Quirion) Estes, died Feb. 26, 2016 in Bangor after a lengthy illness.

He was born Aug. 10, 1931 in Holden, the son of Leland D. and Virginia (Murphy) Estes.

Harry was a graduate of Brewer High School, Class of 1951, where he played basketball and football. He served 34 years with the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Maine Air National Guard. Harry coached Pop Warner and freshmen football in Brewer. The players he coached as freshmen went on to win the state championship in 1968, an accomplishment he was very proud of. He also enjoyed the time he spent as a high school football official, running the score clock for Brewer basketball and football as well as for Husson College. Harry was one of the co-founders of Brewer Recreation Organization (also known as BRO). In addition, he also served as a past president of BRO and PAL Basketball. Harry was also a member of the Ralph J. Pollard Lodge, #217 AF & AM, Orrington and the Anah Temple Shrine, Second Section. After retirement, he enjoyed his summers at Phillips Lake, also known as Lucerne Lake. He also spent his winters in Florida at Ocean Village on Hutchinson Island. He was proud of many things including his hometown, Brewer. He enjoyed following the coaching career of his son, Skip and watching his granddaughter, Sarah, as a player and coach. He loved sports and the City of Brewer very much.

Surviving are his wife, Shirley of Brewer; two children, Ronald Estes and his wife, Beverly of Old Town and Harry "Skip" Estes, III and his wife, Susan of Brewer; three grandchildren, Cory and Casey Estes of Old Town and Sarah Estes of Bangor; two great grandchildren, Carter and Brielle Estes. He was predeceased by his parents and by a brother, Reginald Estes in 2007. Harry's family gratefully thanks Dr. Michaud and Dr. McKay and the staff of Westgate Manor for their excellent care.

A service honoring Harry's life will be held 11 AM Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the East Orrington Congregational Church on 38 Johnson Mill Rd, Orrington with Rev. Carl Schreiber, pastor, presiding. Private burial will be at a later date. A time of fellowship and refreshments will be immediately afterward in the church hall. In lieu of flowers, those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Brewer Athletic Boosters, c/o David Utterback, 79 Parkway South, Brewer, ME 04412. Arrangements by Kiley & Foley Funeral Service 69 State St., Brewer. Messages and memories may be shared with his family at kileyandfoley.com.



GEORGE M. BLOOD

LINCOLN - George M. Blood, 84, husband of Phyllis (Tripp) Blood, passed away Feb. 26, 2016 at his home. He was born May 23, 1931 in Holden the son of Lawrence and Tressa (Allen) Blood.

In addition to his wife he is survived by two children, Sandy Blood and Mitzi Botelho; four grandchildren, Aylah, Zachary, Cassidy and Taylor; and two great-grandchildren, Jonathan and Ryder. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by two sisters, Dorothea Pickering and Alice Leavitt.

A private interment will be in Lincoln Cemetery at a later date. Those who wish may donate in his memory to the Lincoln Hospice of Community Health and Counseling or to a charity of choice. Condolences be expressed at www.clayfuneralhome.com



MALCOLM "BROWNIE" BROWN

SCARBOROUGH - Malcolm "Brownie" Brown, 85, of Scarborough, Maine, passed away February, 25, 2016 following a brief illness. Malcolm was born on February 5, 1931 in Corinth, Maine, the son of George and Ethel Brown.

Brownie, (as everyone knew him) married his sweetheart Claire LaFlamme in 1948. They were married for 66 years. Brownie spent his childhood and young adulthood on the family farm. He was employed by Footman Dairy in Brewer for 27 years. He also spent many years working for A&P grocers and Rogerson's variety store in Brewer. Brownie was a great provider to his family. Golfing and wood working were his passions. He built many family keepsakes that will always be treasured. He spent many a day perfecting his golf game with friends and family at local courses. In particular, he knew the traps and greens at Pine Hill Golf in Brewer very well.

Malcolm is survived by his lovely wife, Claire Brown of Scarborough; son, Rodney and his wife, Saranne of Scarborough; daughter, Brenda Rossignol and son-in-law, Camille Rossignol of Lisbon; grandchildren, Justin Brown and his wife, Carolyn of Londonderry, New Hampshire and great grandchildren, Meghan and Kevin Brown; granddaughter, Jamie and Scott Smith of Hebron and great grandson, Owen; grandson, Jason Brown of Derry, New Hampshire; and sisters, Beulah Ayer of Norway, Maine and Beryl Smith of Old Town, Maine. Malcolm was predeceased by his brother, Carl Brown of Corinth, Maine and sister, Jeane Hall of Hermon, Maine.

Malcolm was a kind spirited and generous man with a great sense of humor. He loved to sing a jingle or two without warning. Those jingles and his presence will be missed by many.

The family would like to thank the nurses and doctors in the SCU at Maine Medical Center in Portland for making Malcolm feel comfortable throughout his stay. The professionalism and caring attitude was much appreciated.

Brownies grandson Jason is a member of Play Among the Stars Theatre Groupe, based out of Salem, New Hampshire. This Groupe held a very special place in Malcolm's heart. The family is asking that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Play Among the Stars Theatre Groupe, P.O. Box, 2222 Salem, NH 03079.

A celebration of life will be held at Blue Point Congregational Church at 236 Pine Point Road, Scarborough, on Saturday, April 30, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.

Arrangements are under the guidance of Hobbs Funeral Home, 671 U.S. Route One, Scarborough. Condolences may be expressed online at www.hobbsfuneralhome.com



MEREDITH R. HUTCHINS

SOUTHWEST HARBOR - Meredith Adelle (Rich) Hutchins, 76, died peacefully on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 of central nervous system lymphoma at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor.

She was born April 6, 1939 in Bar Harbor, the daughter of Roger Clifton and Lucile Arlene (Farnsworth) Rich of Tremont. In 1957 she graduated Pemetic High School and later attended Syracuse University before leaving to marry and raise a family.

She began working at the Southwest Harbor Public Library in 1951 shelving books for Miss Alma Hallenborg at 12 cents an hour. Miss Hallenborg was a mentor helping nurture a lifelong love of literature but her interest first began when Meredith taught herself to read at the age of four resolving to read every book in the library beginning with the A's. Wit and reality soon forced her to modify her original goal and she quickly moved on to the rest of the alphabet. She accumulated a large personal library at home including "too many cookbooks" and spoke critically and enthusiastically about whatever books or articles she was reading at the time.

In 1985 Meredith retired from the library after 35 years of nearly constant service. During her last six years she was the library's director, a position she assumed after the retirement in 1979 of another mentor, Frances Hitchcock. In 1983-84 she oversaw the library's fourth expansion which included the restoration of the coffered ceiling in the original building. After her retirement, Meredith served on the library's Board of Directors and for many years continued pricing books for the library's annual used book sale.

As a librarian she was most proud when she successfully matched the right book with a patron's tastes and interests. Her goal as a professional was always to serve the patrons with the appropriate book, answer or resource. She also enjoyed recommending new titles to Mrs. Hitchcock who gave her the authority to annually choose all the library's new books.

From 1970 until 2001 Meredith and her husband operated Hutchins Cottages - summer housekeeping cottages in Southwest Harbor. Kenneth built and maintained the buildings while

Meredith handled advertising, inquiries, cleaning and furnishings.

Meredith was a dedicated researcher of family genealogies and local history. She was born to a long line of fishermen and boat builders and traced her Mount Desert Island roots back to John Rich who settled in Bass Harbor in the late 1700's. She traced her family back to Hannah Dustin of Haverhill, MA and to the Mayflower but declined to join the Daughters of the American Revolution after they refused to permit Marion Anderson to sing at Constitution Hall. In later years she partnered with Charlotte Morrill (Southwest Harbor) curating the Southwest Harbor Public Library archive of historic photographs. She also wrote articles, essays, stories and poems which were printed in local and regional publications.

She was a member of the Jane Austen Society, the Jane Austen Society of North America and the Bronte Society. Meredith was fond of good food and wine, classical music - particularly the organ, theatre, history and boating. She and her husband spent many happy weekends "gunkholing" up and down the Maine coast and once, memorably, travelled to Nova Scotia in their 35 foot sloop, Whisper. Later they took their cabin cruiser, Voyager, up the St. John River to Fredericton, New Brunswick. They traveled to Europe, the Caribbean, Hawaii, China, and especially to England.

Meredith is survived by her husband of 57 years, Kenneth Urban Hutchins, her daughter Kristin Rebecca Hutchins (Southwest Harbor), her daughter Anne Elizabeth Hutchins and son-in-law James Easton Kirschner (S. Hamilton, MA), her daughter Laura Claire Hutchins and son-in-law Stephen Harding Brookes (Burlington, CT), her brother Philip Clifton Rich (Southwest Harbor), and four grandchildren, Jonathan Carter Kirschner, Elizabeth Easton Kirschner, Evelyn Farnsworth Brookes and Ian Hutchins Brookes.

A memorial service for Meredith will be held later this summer. Donations in Meredith's name may be made to the Southwest Harbor Public Library, PO Box 157, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679. <http://downeastdirectcremation.com/>

More obituaries on Pages C3, C4

View Personal Messages From Family & Friends

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401(k) & IRA Distribution Planning

- Avoiding the tax penalty for early and late distributions.
- The potential impact of Required Minimum Distributions (RMD).
- Preserving retirement accounts for your spouse and beneficiaries.
- Creating lifetime retirement income that protects you from inflation.

Jeff's Catering
15 Littlefield Way
03/02/2016
6:00pm - 7:00pm

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New garden, park in Milbridge

MILBRIDGE — The public is invited to attend an informational meeting 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, at the Women's Health Resource Library. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss plans for the development of a public garden and park in downtown Milbridge. This meeting will include background on the project, an overview of the project's progress and an opportunity for residents to share ideas about the community project. The project is a collaboration between the Maine Coast Heritage Trust and the Women's Health Resource Library.

When the library's Incredible Edible Milbridge Project began to flourish, it set its eyes on a 4.6-acre parcel of river-

front property along Main Street. With big dreams of growing organic vegetables and community spirit, organizers approached the land trust about conserving the property. The land trust embraced the idea and purchased the land, enabling the library to begin planning the next step for the Incredible Edible Milbridge.

As yet unnamed, the 4.6-acre Main Street garden and park will include pick-your-own vegetable gardens, an orchard and a walking track. Other ideas being considered are a play area for children, a children's garden, themed gardens and an amphitheater.

For information about the Women's Health Resource Library and Incredible Edible Milbridge, visit whrl.org. For information about Maine Coast Heritage Trust, visit mcht.org.