

“Red Right Returning”

Father, brother, Grampy, Uncle (U.G.):
Herbert Gerry Lipsett, 84, passed peacefully Tuesday February 16, 2016 at Grace Cottage Hospital, Townshend, VT surrounded by family. Gerry (pronounced with a hard “G”) was born February 28, 1931. The son of Margaret (Gilbert) and Richard C. Lipsett, he is survived by his daughter Koren, son Brian, four grandchildren, his beloved sister, Alexandra Lipsett Wigglesworth and her husband William W. Wigglesworth (Vernon, CT), and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Gerry graduated from Marblehead High School (Marblehead, MA - ‘49), the Coast Guard Academy (New London, CT - Engineering ‘53) and Northeastern University (Boston, MA - MSEE ‘61). He served in the U. S. Coast Guard off the Coast of New England on the USCG Cutters Duane and Barataria as an antisubmarine warfare (ASW) officer during the Korean Conflict and then served in the Coast Guard Reserve. He married Valerie Alayne Lipsett in 1958.

He was an engineer involved in the design, installation, and sea testing of the propulsion control system for the USS Long Beach CGN 9, the U.S. Navy’s first nuclear powered surface ship - built in Quincy, MA. His distinguished career included management posts at the Naval Underwater Sound Lab (New London, CT), Naval Underwater Warfare Center, (Newport, RI) and as Science Advisor for the Commander Naval Surface Force Atlantic Fleet (COMNAVSURFLANT - Norfolk, VA). For this, he was presented the U.S. Navy’s “Meritorious Civilian Service Award” by Vice-Admiral J.D. Johnson.

Following retirement, he continued to pursue passions close to his heart amongst family and friends near and far and at ports of call. He loved horses, boats, and telling everyone to make sure they had a life jacket on board. A skilled builder from childhood, he never made it past apprentice, nonetheless building his family home with his father and Valerie in Cohasset,



MA and later building, renovating, and improving family properties from Naples, ME to Gettysburg, PA, often along side his former wife. While renovating the family homestead in Marblehead, MA (c1764), he brought traditional building craftsmen together with younger builders. Thus he ensured that traditional building techniques, tools, and skills from previous generations were passed forward.

A celebration of Gerry's life is to be held May 7, 2016 in Marblehead, MA.

Donations in memory to:

Class of '53 Endowment Fund, c/o Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association, 47 Mohegan Ave.,
New London, CT 06320-8111

Grace Cottage Hospital, P.O. Box 1, Townshend, VT 05353