

Harold A. Murphy of Sturbridge Mass., formerly of St. Johnsbury and Joe's Pond, passed away at a hospital in Meriden, Conn., Saturday, March 10, 2007. He was 89. He was born in St. Johnsbury in 1917, the son of Albert William and Charlotte Julia (Plant) Murphy. His wife, Muriel (Belden) Murphy, passed away Dec. 14, 1992. His second wife, Ella Brown Murphy, passed away in 2000. He was also predeceased by a brother, Kenneth F. Murphy. Harold graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1935. He attended the University of Chicago and Columbia University, majoring in engineering and law. After working at Fairbanks in St. Johnsbury, The American Optical Company in Southbridge, Mass., and Machlett Laboratories in Stamford, Conn., he had a long career as a patent attorney with Raytheon Corp. in Lexington, Mass. The Murphys had a summer home on Joes Pond for over 50 years and spent winters in Thonotosassa and Zephyrhills, Fla. Harold always enjoyed a good game of golf and was an avid Red Sox and Patriots fan. His favorite pastime, however, was spending time with family and friends. He is survived by two children, Judith M. Dayton and husband Gary of Cheshire, Conn., and Donald F. Murphy and wife, Diane, of Summerville, S.C.; five grandchildren, Kevin and Lee, Janice, Brian and Allison; nine great-grandchildren; a cousin who was raised as a sister to him, Lorraine (Plant) Sanderson and her husband Richard, of Emporium, Pa. A chapel service will be held Friday at noon at the Sayles Funeral Home with Father Richard O'Donnell officiating. Burial will be at a later date at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 11 a.m. to the start of the service. Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Diabetes Association, 512 Troy Ave., Colchester, VT 05446.