

Dr. Paul E. Howe, 86, of Newport and Fort Myers, Florida, died peacefully on Friday, March 7, 2008, at his home in Newport. The youngest of four children, Dr. Howe was born in St. Johnsbury on May 31, 1921, to Charles and Maude Howe. He graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy and the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Shortly after graduation, he joined the United States Navy and he served on the USS Bremerton during World War II. He returned to Vermont after the war and married Elena Coletti, to whom he has been married 61 years. She survives him. He began his optometric practice in Windsor before moving to Newport in 1946, where he was a local optometrist for over 40 years. He was an avid outdoorsman and especially enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing, and skiing. He treasured many enjoyable days spent at the Newport Country Club, and "Doc Howe's group" was a familiar sight on the fairways. He was a past member of the Knights of Columbus, the Rotary Club, the Elks Club, and the Newport Country Club. He is survived by his wife, Elena, and their two sons and their families: Gregory Howe, his wife, Billie, and their children Emily and Lindsay Howe of Derby; and Dr. James Howe, his wife, Rita, their children Tanner Howe and his wife, Hillery, and their daughter Chloe of New York City, Justin Howe of Wilmington, North Carolina, and Andrew and Julia Howe of Shelburne. He is survived by many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two brothers, Raymond and George Howe; and by one sister, Muriel Wood. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, March 12, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Catholic Church in Newport with the Reverend Yvon Royer celebrating a Mass of Christian Burial. Spring interment will take place in Pine Hill Cemetery in Newport.