

ELLIOTT: Norris A., 72

ELLIOTT: Norris A., 72, of Lyndonville, passed away Saturday, June 28, 2003 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. He was born in St. Johnsbury, April 25, 1931, the son of Arthur and Cora Louise Elliott. Norris enjoyed flying and at age 14 flew solo flights over their home in Bradford. Later he had a senior pilot's license and flew for a brief period out of Caledonia Airport. After graduating from the University of Vermont, he returned to Lyndon where he operated a small dairy farm, but he soon became a biology and vocational tech teacher at Lyndon Institute. While teaching he also started a number of businesses, including a poultry farm in 1957, a summer catering service featuring chicken barbecues, and, in 1964, a small greenhouse at the current site of Elliott's Greenhouses on Rte. 122. His career after teaching included a position as business manager at Lyndon Institute and then tricounty extension agent for UVM's Extension Service. After earning his MBA from UVM he moved to Burlington to become the Vermont Small Business Development Center director. His love of horticulture kept him busy. During this period he also built and operated a retail garden center on Rte. 100 in Stowe. After retiring from UVM he built a greenhouse near Bradenton, Fla., where he specialized in the propagation of geraniums, the same crops his parents grew in the original greenhouse located on 170 Dandelion Lane in Lyndonville. Last spring Norris grew over 50,000 geraniums for the Lyndon garden center. Returning north every summer, Norris helped his son Steven and daughter-in-law Carolyn expand the garden center in Lyndon Center. They have extensive plans for continued growth and community service for their garden center, to continue on in Norris' tradition. Staff and customers always enjoyed seeing him there, for his knowledge and his keen wit. Norris served on the board of directors of the Northern Community Investment Corp. for several years. Other local services included the Lyndon Outing Club, Future Farmers of America, and trustee of Lyndon Institute. He is survived by two sons, Steven of Lyndon, and Richard of Fair Haven, Mass., who works in the U.S.C.G. Marine Safety Office in Newport, R.I.; daughters-in-law Carolyn

and Ann Marie; grandchildren Mickaela and Hillary, and Bryan and Kimberly; and his companion, Karlene Smith of Glover and Parrish, Fla. Norris\' sister, Connie Simpson, predeceased him. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Lyndon Institute for the reconstruction and landscaping of the vocational campus. Please contact Steven Elliott at 802-626-3634. As of this writing, the family hopes to have a memorial service at the family farm in Lyndon, with a reception following, on Saturday, July 5. Further details will follow in The Caledonian-Record and will be available from the funeral home, 802-626-5600.