



**Stewart Merrill** September 8, 1926 - April 15, 2017

Stewart Merrill passed away peacefully in his Venice, Florida home on Saturday, April 15th at the age of 90. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Jean, daughter Ann Flynn (Robert), sons Jim (Patti), Dave (Tracey) and Doug (Lori), ten grandchildren, Jenna, Tommy(Halley), Mike(Erin), Amanda(Andy), Sam(Nichole), Luke, Katie, Jeremy(Megan), Jessie, and Nate...and one great-grandson, Finn.

He was born and raised in Andover Ohio, the son of Neil and Brenda Stillman Merrill. During World War II he served in the US Navy. He graduated from Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland where he met and married his wife Jean. They were college sweethearts and he often said he was fortunate to have won her heart.

He received a PhD in organic chemistry from the Ohio State University. For 30 years he worked as a research chemist in the Eastman Kodak Research Laboratory in Rochester from which he retired in 1983.

He was an avid gardener, his apples, raspberries and blueberries were legendary and much sought after by his Rochester neighbors.

Summer vacations were spent at the family cottage in Ontario, where three generations of Merrill's learned to swim, paddle, fish and rough-it in the Canadian woods.

After retiring he and Jean made their home in Seneca South Carolina. He loved that lakeside house, his gardens, his boat and trying to outsmart the bass in the lake. He and Jean were fans of Clemson sports, particularly baseball.

His last nine years were spent at the Jacaranda Trace Community in Venice Florida, where he and Jean made many close friends and where he was always chosen first for the Saturday morning Trivial Pursuit competitions.

A child of the Depression he knew the value of a dollar and he set a high bar with respect to hard work, consideration of others, good manners, civility and a strong sense of right and wrong. He was a man of few very well-chosen words, he always thought before he spoke or acted. He was a lover of books, history and travel, but he loved his family above all else.

A service in honor of Stewart will be held at Jacaranda Trace on Saturday April 22nd. In lieu of flowers, hug someone you love. Stewart would approve.



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