



William Whipple Poole

February 10, 1923 - May 13, 2021

Falmouth:

William Whipple Poole, beloved husband of Dana Poole, died May 13, 2021 at Falmouth House at Ocean View in Falmouth, Maine. He was 98.

Born February 10, 1923 in Portland, Maine to Parker Poole Sr. and Marjorie Shurtleff Poole, he grew up in Portland and attended MacLellan, Butler, and Deering High School. After graduating from Kimball Union Academy in 1942 he started his studies at Dartmouth College. He joined the US Army in 1943 and served in the European Theater in the 158th Combat Engineering Unit of Patton's Third Army. He fought at the Battle of the Bulge and participated in the crossing of the Rhine River. Bill returned to Dartmouth in 1947, joined the Theta Delta Chi fraternity and graduated in 1948. He remained a lifelong supporter of his schools, fraternity, and his military unit. In 2011, he self-published his memoir, "My Experience in the US Army during World War II- 1943 to 1946".

After the War, Bill joined his father Parker Poole Sr. at the W.H. Shurtleff Company, a wholesale distributor of salt and chemicals, on Union Wharf. With his brother Parker Poole Jr. and his nephews, Malcolm and Charlie Poole grew the Shurtleff Company to a New England -wide supplier and the Union Wharf property to a centerpiece of Portland's working waterfront. At the time of his death, Bill was Chairman of the Board of Poole Group of Companies, the successor to the W.H Shurtleff Company.

In 1970, Bill married Dana Smith and together they enjoyed extensive time in New York City, Palm City Florida and traveled to many corners of the world. Dana added many dimensions to his life after being a bachelor for so long and in recent decades provided strong counsel and partnership in his life.

Bill was a true believer in physical fitness and personal health long before it became mainstream. He was a fierce competitor in business, and in his many sports and activities: sailing, tennis, golf, skiing, biking, Concept II rowing and Bridge, winning many championships. He became a judge and official for The U.S. Sailing Association and their Match Racing Championships, the most significant of these being chosen as an alternate judge for the America's Cup. Bill was a long-term member of the Portland Yacht Club, Portland Country Club, The Cumberland Club, and the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. One of Bill's claims to fame was his participation in cutting "Old Winter's Way" at Sugarloaf in

1951.

Bill was generous with his time and financial support to many community organizations and nonprofits, with special connections to The Portland Stage Company, Sail Maine, The Portland Museum of Art, The Children's Theater, The Animal Refuge League, and Northeast Sailing Association. He was a gentle and firm instructor of young people in each of these areas and could always be counted on to make the day challenging, instructive and fun.

In addition to his wife Dana, Bill is survived by his Poole nephews and nieces and their spouses: Malcolm and Patti Poole, Parker Poole III and Diane Schinella Poole, Charles and Elizabeth Poole, Christina Poole Thomas and Henry Thomas, Alexandra Poole Sawyer, and Mark Sawyer, and 19 great nieces and nephews. Bill will be fondly missed by many dear friends.

The family would like to express special thanks to the staff at Falmouth House at Ocean View, Compassus Hospice Care and Amada Senior Care for the special support they gave Bill in his last months.

A memorial service honoring Bill's life will be held June 15 at 11:00 AM at State Street Congregational Church, 159 State Street, Portland.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Portland Stage Company, Sail Maine or Friends of Casco Bay would be deeply appreciated.

Arrangements are by Dolby, Blaise and Segee, Westbrook, Maine

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

Westbrook, ME 04092

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 15. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

State Street Church
159 State Street
Portland, ME 04101

Memorial Mass

JUN 15. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

State Street Church
159 State Street
Portland, ME 04101

Graveside Service

JUN 15. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Woodlawn Cemetery
Westbrook, ME 04092

Tribute Wall

BT

“ Loved sailing with you for many years in Back Cove and Sebago Lake. Miss you!

Bill Taylor - May 26, 2021 at 01:22 PM

JW

“ I had the honor of working with Bill for many years both at the W. H. Shurtleff and Poole Group of Companies. He asked if I would type his memories of the Army days which was so interesting to me. Even then he found a way to help make money by selling bicycles. I had the opportunity to help Bill with some of his passions in life, Northeast Sailing Association and before that the boardsailing events. There was never a dull moment when Bill was around. His stories were intriguing to say the least. He is a man I will never forget.

Dana, thank you for sharing Bill with all of us. He was a wonderful man.

My sincere sympathies, Joanne Walker.

Joanne Walker - May 23, 2021 at 10:04 PM

KH

“ I was honored to have assisted Bill during his stay at The Falmouth House. Our drives to his appointments were always a pleasure, with so many stories that he shared of his adventurous life. Bill was a gentle kind man, who persevered at all he believed in, and loved his family. We found we had past connections...the Rangeley & Richardsons Lakes, Sugarloaf, the Kendall family, (I was a classmate of Mary's in my youngest years living in Auburn), among others. May all of his wonderful memories shine on his loved ones. RIP my friend...

Kathy Caldwell Hewins - May 23, 2021 at 09:15 AM

AW

“ So sorry to learn of Bill's passing. He was a unique individual and will be missed by those who knew him. I have fond memories of his many visits to our home as he was our dad, Richard Kendall's oldest friend. My most memorable story he shared with us was of him stuffing spinach, from his dinner plate, behind the radiator as he was expected to eat it all before leaving the dinner table. I can only imagine the smell that would have eventually permeated the air! Also the years he would come to our family lobster bake. Sending comforting prayers to the whole family.

Sincerely Anne Kendall White

Anne White - May 19, 2021 at 04:13 PM

KK

“ Bill Poole was my fathers best friend. Richard Kendall. Growing up in Auburn, Me Bill Poole often visited the Kendalls. He was a hunting partner on the annual deer hunting trip to our Beaver Island on Richardson Lake. He attended our annual lobster bake in the summer until 2013. He was a delight for us Kendall kids whenever he visited. All the Kendalls will miss him.
Kim Kendall

kim kendall - May 19, 2021 at 02:48 PM