



John M. Beale

May 26, 1914 - July 27, 2010

AUBURN - John M, Beale of Shepley Street,,Auburn, died of natural causes at his residence on July 27, 2010, at the age of 96. He was born in Eastport on May 26, 1914, the only child of William C. and Eunice (Mower) Beale. He graduated from Shepley Memorial High School in Eastport in 1930 as the valedictorian of his class. He then graduated from Hebron Academy in 1931 and from Bowdoin College in 1935. Mr. Beale was employed by the then-new Social Security Administration in 1936, working first in the Portland office and then in Bangor. In early 1940 he was appointed as the District Manager of the newly-created Lewiston Social Security district office, a position which he held until his retirement in 1973. On June 13, 1940 he married the former Evelyn C. Welch of Bangor. The couple were the parents of four sons, Stephen, James, Thomas and Michael. Mr. and Mrs. Beale resided in the same house on Shepley Street in Auburn until Mrs. Beale's death on April 30, 2008, and Mr. Beale continued in that residence until his death. Mr. Beale was active in community affairs. He was a former member of the Central Maine Medical Center Board of Trustees, and served as chairman and member of several committees of that board in the late 1970's and in the 1980's. In 1974 Mr. Beale was chairman of the Central Maine General Hospital-St. Mary's Joint Hospital Fund Campaign which at the time was deemed one of the largest and most successful capital fund appeals conducted in this area. For that work he received a special award from the Lewiston-Auburn Chamber of Commerce. For many years he was active as a volunteer in the United Way and its predecessor organizations. He served the United Way in a number of capacities, including that of Campaign Chairman. He also served as its interim executive director on one occasion when the United Way was suddenly without an executive director. He served several terms as a trustee of the Auburn Public Library including a term as vice president of the board. He was a long-time member of the Bowdoin Club of Androscoggin County, serving as president among other offices. Captain of the swim team while at Bowdoin, Mr. Beale continued his interest in competitive swimming after graduation and served as coach of the Edward Little High School swim team from 1944 to 1962, although he was never a member of the Edward Little High School teaching faculty. In his retirement years Mr. Beale enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities, including vegetable gardening, working in his woodlot and at Prince Farm Orchard in Turner. Mr. Beale is survived by

three sons; Stephen P. Beale and his wife, Laurie Gibson, of Durham; Thomas J. Beale and his wife, Jean, of Bangor; and Michael J. Beale and his wife, Kate, of Holden; five grandchildren, Andrea, Martin, David, Moira and Jonathan Beale; two great-grandchildren, Alexander Beale and Arnica Beale. He was predeceased by his wife Evelyn in 2008 and by a son, James W. Beale, in 1994. A Mass of Christian Burial honoring John's life will be celebrated SATURDAY 10:00AM at St. Philip's Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Graveside committal prayers to follow at Mt. Auburn Cemetery. Online condolences and sharing of memories may be expressed at www.lynchbrothers.com Family and friends are invited to visit Friday 4-7PM at DILLINGHAM & SON MEMORIAL CHAPEL & TRIBUTE CENTER 62 Spring St., Auburn, 784-6449

Comments



“ A good full life for a stalwart Hebron and Bowdoin graduate. Our sympathies to his family.

John Gibbons - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ Steve, May memories of happy days with your Dad bring you comfort during this time. John was a good man and I always enjoyed being around him. John O

John Orestis - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ I have so many fond memories of John as a co member of the Marois Flying Saucer club...his sense of humor, love of singing, serious reflections on the fundamental issues of the day made him an indispensable member of the group that met for so many of the past 50 plus years. To Stephen, with whom I have had a professional relationship over the past several years, I particularly convey my condolences on John's passing. Sincerely, Lou Scolnik

Louis Scolnik - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ Tom, Very sorry for your loss. I did not know your father, but I did know Tom in the 1970s. I will never forget the day my daddy died (Dec 18, 1973) and you Tom were the first person to offer condolences to me and it helped our housemates to grasp what they needed to do. I will never forget your kindness, Tom! Obviously, your parents did a good job. 96 your father was! Wow. Are you ready to live that long? God bless you and all the Beale Family! Gary Gibson

Gary Gibson - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ To the special families of dear Uncle John Have never forgotten all our special Thanksgivings and moments spent together. You mother and father always made everything so special, really miss the conversations with them. Bless you all and always keep his memory alive. Will be missed for sure. Miss you all With Sympathy Michele Cole

Michele Cole - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ It was a great honor to know John Beale! In addition to his outstanding character he possessed a great sense of humor. At my mother's yearly parties he entertained us with his "Casey at the Bat." It is fantastic he was with us for 96 years! We will enjoy our memories of him and wish his family's loss be balanced by memories of his long and fruitful life. Barbara and Norman Schneider

Barbara and Norman Schneider - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ God's blessings on your Dad's soul, Tom. We are with you in spirit in paying tribute to this sweet man. Know that our eyes tear up thinking of the life that was, but our hearts are full of hope knowing that the life to come brings joy.

John and Christine Snyder - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ I am writing this on behalf of the Literary Round Table in Eastport, Maine. I do not know any other way to get to the family of John. John supported a Creative Writing fund for us for many years. It meant a lot to us that he was interested in the youth of Eastport. I myself was teaching at the Elementary School and was involved in two of the booklets of writing in the 90's. I think that I even sent them to John. We (the Literary Round Table) just had our first meeting of the year and we decided that I would try to send a message to you from us with our condolences to you and your family. Know that we are thinking of you and that we appreciated the things that John did for our community from afar. Our thoughts and sympathys are with you. The Ladies of the Literary Round Table

Judy L. Knapp - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ Mr. Beale will be missed by all. He was a wonderful neighbor and in general a terrific person. I remember his evening walks when he frequently dropped in on us Abbott's for a hello. In the fall he brought apples from his apple picking job/adventure. But his most famous treat he gave us Abbott's and the neighbors was at the annual Abbott Christmas morning gathering for Brandy Alexanders and cheese straws....he always read a Christmas poem that often brought the house down in laughter. My best wishes and heart felt sympathy to the Beale family. It was a honor to know you all.

Peg Abbott Emerson - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ God bless you Thomas, and your whole family at this time of joy and sorrow. Tears are shed and prayers are lifted up for you all. In Christ our Lord, Al

Al Ramey - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ May God be with you through all the good byes, large and small. We are with you in prayer.

Therese Boucher - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ Dear Beale Family, My deepest condolences to you all. My husband Brian and I had the serendipitous fortune to share backyards with John and Evelyn between June, 1993 and Fall, 1996, and they were, perhaps, the best neighbors we ever had. At the time, I was a Family Practice resident at Central Maine Medical Center and only saw my husband on weekends when he'd travel down from Houlton, where I now live and practice. Those times were hard for me; I was an older resident, older than some of my attendings, and was often up all night every fourth night; there were many deaths (albeit, not unexpected); I could never learn enough fast enough, etc. Times spent in that backyard were a joyful antidote: I grew whatever I could in my limited free time, I studied and ate meals at my picnic table whenever weather permitted. And John and Evelyn represented Freedom and Hope! They were very kind to me and felt like old friends from the start. They shared gardening and neighborhood lore, and their wonderful senses of humor. John never would say what happened to the gopher, but, thanks to John, stuff grew in our yards unthreatened thereafter. I had the added pleasure of sharing my Eastport past with John,; before I attended medical school, I lived there for eight years and that magical place will always remain dear to my heart. I was in absolute awe of the Dougall Anderson painting on John and Evelyn's living room wall, which they graciously allowed me to photograph. (One of Dougall's girlfriends' descendents is a friend of mine; she had inherited some of Dougall's early pencil sketches). John gave me a fascinating brochure from Eastport, printed in the Twenties, when Eastport was promoting itself as a destination for roadsters; I cherish it. John and Evelyn were just so real, so down to earth, and quite humble, I learned, after reading the long list of John's accomplishments and achievements. Although I don't think I ever met any of you, I grieved for you during the memorial service for your brother in your backyard... Thank you for allowing me to share. Martha Stewart

Martha Stewart - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ What a wonderful photo of John! We were next door neighbors for over 38 years and enjoyed "talking over the fence" on many occasions. He always had something interesting to say. We will miss him.

Barbara Powers - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ God Bless America! We loved your mom and dad. His recitation of Casey at the Bat will live in our memories forever. We can still hear him and Bill Lever belting out "God Bless America" at The Brittens. What fond memories we both have. Sorry we can't be there. We have rented our home on Webster St. in Lewiston and this is the first year we haven't gone back to Maine for the Summer. It is HOT in FL. Miss our friends in Maine. Condolences to your family.El and Bob Shimko

Eleanor & Bob Shimko - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM



“ Sorry to read of John's death. My sympathy to the family. John's father was a brother to my grandfather, Charles "Steve" Beale. I remember visiting several times with my mother, Mary, at her aunt Eunice's home in Eastport. Also visiting with my mother at her uncle Will's office a short time before my grandfather died in the early 1950's. I believe my sister, Eunice Sibley, had contact with John over the years.

C. Harold Harding - July 28, 2010 at 05:04 PM