



## Maurice L. Penley

October 26, 1924 - November 8, 2012

Maurice L. Penley passed away Nov. 8, 2012 in Auburn, two weeks after his 88th birthday. He will be remembered for his hard work ethic, devotion to his wife and family and love of the outdoors.

He was an avid sportsman -- he loved cross-country skiing, deer hunting, snowmobiling, hiking and following professional sports, especially the Red Sox and Patriots. In high school, he played basketball and baseball for Edward Little and in the Goff Hill Cyclones, a recreational basketball league. Maurice was born Oct. 26, 1924 in Auburn.

He graduated from Edward Little High School in 1942 and enlisted in the Navy the following winter and served in the Pacific theatre of WWII.

He flew on a B-24 Liberator as an aviation flight engineer from 1942 to 1946.

He went to flight school in Pensacola, Florida was sent to San Diego and then served on the island Tinian in the South Pacific. He was flying over Iwo Jima, patrolling for Japanese submarines, the day they raised the flag on Mount Suribachi.

His squadron credited him for saving the plane and crew on a night run off of Tinian in 1944. The plane had hit a piece of equipment as it was taking off, and Maurice jettisoned fuel canisters and ammunition to keep the plane in the air.

He was later recognized for his quick thinking and heroic actions by his squadron. After serving in the Navy, he returned to Turner to work on the family farm. His future wife, Lorraine caught Maurice's eye as she would walk by the farm to catch the school bus. Maurice and Lorraine Penley were married Sept. 9, 1950 and shared a life together for 61 years. Lorraine passed away in December 2011.

The Penley family lived on West Dartmouth Street in Auburn and Maurice worked for the Post Office as a mail carrier, delivering mail to the people of Auburn.

In 1978, Maurice and Lorraine moved to a home on Bear Pond in Turner. In retirement, the couple spent happy days on the beach at Bear Pond and taking getaway trips to Carribean Islands.

They also traveled extensively through the state of Maine, staying at bed-and-breakfasts. When their children were young, they took many trips to a hunting camp in Upton on Umbagog Lake. The couple also enjoyed traveling to Maurice's Navy squadron reunions all over the U.S. Maurice is survived by his sister Joyce Gaskas of Winstead, Conn. and

his children, Maureen Poisson of Jay, Marcia Bray of Hebron, Conn. and Jay Penley of Hartford, Maine. He will be fondly remembered by his eight grandchildren: Ross Poisson of Canton, Brett Poisson of Jay, Bethany Bray of Hamilton, Mass., Abigail Haynes of Leominster, Mass., Benjamin Bray of Hebron, Conn., Zachary Bray of Alexandria, Va., Jayson Penley of Limington and Sara Nilges of Sabbattus; as well as eight great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife Lorriane, sister Elaine Ordway, mother Annie Verrill and father Aurthur Penley. Online condolences and sharing of memories may be expressed at [www.lynchbrothers.com](http://www.lynchbrothers.com) . NOTICE Penley- Died in Auburn Thursday November 8, 2012. Mr. Maurice L. age 88 a resident of Auburn. Funeral services honoring Maurice's life will be held on Monday at 12:00 PM from the memorial chapel of Dillingham & Son. Committal services with military honors will follow at Penley Corner Cemetery in Auburn. Visitation will be held on Sunday from 6-8 PM only at Dillingham & Son Memorial Chapel 62 Spring Street, Auburn 784-6449.

# Comments

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“ To Maureen, Marcha ,Jay we are sorry to hear of your Dads Passing but just remember he is with your loving mom now, I told Ted & He was sorry to hear. he was really like you dad when he met him at your moms funral.TED spent 30 year in the Navy as well GOD BLESS ALL of you

**norma gammon & everett carter** - November 12, 2012 at 04:17 PM