



## Mr. Eugene Richard Coe

August 31, 1921 - May 28, 2022

Mr. Eugene Richard Coe, of North Adams, MA, passed away on Saturday, May 28, 2022, just 3 months shy of his 101st birthday. Born in Pittsfield, MA on August 31, 1921, the son of the late Harold and Lorena Marshall Coe, he graduated from Pittsfield High School with the class of 1940. He then enrolled in the General Electric Plastics Division Tool and Dye Making Program. Three plus years of Eugene's life were spent in the service, where he enlisted in the army during World War II.

In the late 40s and 50s, he was an engineer with General Electric in Ohio, where he later became a commercial airplane pilot. During the period of 1951 to 1956, he started Col-East, a parttime aerial photography business, while still working for General Electric. The company quickly developed into an aerial photogrammetric mapping concern, moving to the North Adams, MA Airport in 1972. Mr. Coe was president, CEO, and chief pilot until his retirement in 1997.

Mr. Coe enjoyed fishing and boating for 40 plus years. He also enjoyed antique cars.

Eugene is survived by his daughter, Deirdre (Kevin), and his son, Dean and his family, as well as his grandson Colin McLaughlin and his sister, Thelma Lee. He will be missed so very much.

Eugene's family would like to extend a special thank you to Marilyn Hickey, who was not only a caregiver, but also a tremendous support to Deirdre in caring for him. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the staff and caregivers at both Wingate Residences at Melbourne Place and Hospice of Western and Central Massachusetts for their outstanding compassion and care.

Funeral Notice:

At his request, there will be no formal funeral services for Eugene. In lieu of donations, hug your loved ones, plant a tree, and give thanks.

# Tribute Wall

TP

“ I remember the first time that I met Gene in 1958 at 1184 West St Pittsfield Mass.

At that time Gene had just started the photomapping business with his engineering partner Herbert Forslund.

As a fledgling business Gene and Herb produced all their photo art work in Mr Forslund basement, which included an unique dark room at 1184 West St along and the necessary art and mapping chart work all accomplished there together

. What a remarkable team these two became in the development of ColEast as a joint partnership together.

Gene was the pilot and Herb was the photographer flying out of the Pittsfield Airport, first a Piper Cub, and then Cessna for which Mr Forslund developed and installed a remarkable camera which would correct all the inflight pitches and twists and still take smooth photos of the ground while Gene somehow managed to maintain straight flight lines sometimes covering well over 100 miles.

Your father was a gifted person and was true friend and business associate to many.

Our thoughts and prayers for all the family at this time.

Tom and Dorene Plantier

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tom plantier - June 04, 2022 at 02:20 PM

DP

“ I remember Gene from being a young girl and met him through my grandfather Herbert Forslund who started Col East with Gene.

He was a wonderful man.

Deb Plantier Dorene Forslund Plantier Tom Plantier Terry Plantier  
Scott Plantier

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DJ Plantier - June 04, 2022 at 01:13 PM

DP

“ I knew Gene from years ago when he and my grandfather Herb Forslund started Col East. He was such a wonderful man.

*DJ Plantier, Dorene Forslund Plantier Tom Plantier*



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**DJ Plantier** - June 04, 2022 at 12:43 PM

CM

“ Thinking of you an family during this sad time.  
Love, Carol Ann & Tom

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**Carol Marley** - June 04, 2022 at 08:20 AM

JE

“ Sending our condolences and asking God to comfort you all at this time. From the Flocken cousins, Kathy, Jeff, Bruce and families

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**Jeff** - June 03, 2022 at 10:46 PM