



Mr. Philip Gary Mennitt

March 29, 1937 - July 26, 2011

Philip Gary Mennitt, 74, died of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis on Tuesday, July 26th at his home in Canaan, NY. Gary was the ninth of ten children of William and Mary Mennitt and was born in Battle Creek, MI, on March 29, 1937. He grew up in Summit, NJ, and received his high school diploma from Bayley-Ellard in Madison, NJ. He received a B.S. from Providence College in 1958 and a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1962.

After graduate school, Gary served as a 1st Lieutenant in the Army Chemical Corps from 1962-1964. He then joined the faculty at Brooklyn College where he became a professor of chemistry. He taught there for 35 years and served as department chair for eight years, with his research focused on nuclear magnetic resonance. He was a gifted teacher and mentor to his students. In his retirement, Gary and his wife enjoyed travel, birdwatching, and gardening. Gary was a communicant and lector at St. James Church in Chatham, NY. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather and will be missed by his wife, Lee, four children and their spouses, and nine grandsons.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial for Philip Gary Mennitt will be Friday, August 5, 2011 at 1:00 PM at St. James Church in Chatham, NY celebrated by the Rev. Gary P. Gelfenbien, pastor. Burial will follow in St. James Cemetery in Ghent, NY. In lieu of flowers, Gary requested that donations be made in his name to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Coalition, 10866 W. Washington Blvd. #343, Culver City, CA 90232.