

Charles E. Bangs

March 3, 1919 - January 20, 2010

ADAMS Charles E. Bangs, 90, Adams, died Wednesday at Samaritan Medical Center with his wife Mollie at his side.

Mr. Bangs and his wife operated Bangs Realty in Adams until their retirement in 1989.

Born March 3, 1919, in Chemung, New York, the son of Donald and Jennie White Bangs, Mr. Bangs graduated from Waverly High School in 1937 and attended Elmira business school and the Watertown School of Commerce.

During World War II, he served in the Army at Pine Camp, now Fort Drum, and in England. While stationed at Pine Camp, he met Mollie Damon, who became his wife on July 5, 1942. Their daughter Charlene was born while he was England and their daughter Susan three years later. The family moved to 23 E. Church Street in Adams in 1949 and later shared the two-family house with Mollie's parents, Grant and Mabel Damon.

In 1954, Mr. Bangs left his job as office manager for W. S. Rice Inc. to fulfill an ambition of building houses. The two houses he built singlehandedly on outer Church Street in Adams stand as testament to his skill and craftsmanship. He was the office manager of Sargent, Webster, Crenshaw & Folley, Architects, Watertown, for 19 years before joining his wife fulltime in the real estate business.

He served as president of the Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors. The Bangses were Co-realtors of the Year in 1987.

Mr. Bangs was a member of the Adams Village Baptist Church, where he was trustee and treasurer for many years.

A charter member and past president of the Lions Club, he was a recipient of the Melvin Jones Fellow humanitarian award. He was instrumental in the South Jefferson bloodmobile clinics for many years.

He was president of the South Jefferson Housing Development Fund during the development of the Country View Apartments. He was also president of the Adams Parent-Teacher Association and a past member of the town of Adams Board of Assessment Review.

In 1967, Mr. Bangs took up sailing, a sport he pursued with passion until just a few years ago. Among his wide circle of friends, there are many who will remember a pleasant afternoon sailor a harrowing race on his Cal 20, the Mollie B. He especially loved the Hospice Cup Fun Race, which he and his crew won in 1998 and 1999. He was commodore of the Henderson Harbor Yacht Club in 1976-1977.



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He is survived by his wife, daughter and son-in-law, Charlene and Hol Bickford, Arlington, VA, daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Bruce Munro, Evanston, IL, three grandchildren and spouses, Hilary and Joseph Conway, Portland, OR, Joshua and Ellen Bickford, Fairfax, VA, and Jeremy Barrows and Jenima Lyon, Hartford, CT, six great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Ana Maria Zelaya Jackson became the third Bangs daughter while living with them as an exchange student from Guatemala in 1964-65. She, her husband Fred Jackson, and their two daughters are part of the family. Mr. Bangs was predeceased by his brothers, Stanley and Manley, and his sister, Huldah MacNett.

Calling hours will be at Carpenter-Stoodley Funeral Home, Belleville, from 1 to 5 on Saturday. The Adams Lions Club will conduct a memorial service at 5 pm on Saturday. The funeral will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Adams Village Baptist Church.

Instead of flowers, gifts may be made to the Adams Village Baptist Church, the South Jefferson Rescue Squad, the Henderson Harbor Water Sports program of the Henderson Harbor Yacht Club, or the Historical Association of South Jefferson, Inc.

Condolences may be made

at www.carpenterstoodley.com.