

## PHILIP A. LAVOIE Sr. 1929 - 2010



PHILIP A. LAVOIE, SR. BURLINGTON, VT - Dr. Philip A. Lavoie, Sr., D.D.S., 80, died peacefully on Jan. 31, 2010, surrounded by his devoted family at his home with the same strength of spirit and dignity with which he lived. He was born on Apr. 22, 1929, the fifth son of nine children, of Theophane C. Lavoie and Lucie Gagnon Lavoie, in Fall River, Mass. Upon graduating from Msgr. Prevost High School in 1948, Phil then attended St. Michael's College and graduated in 1952. Following college, Phil served his country for three years during the Korean Conflict in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, assigned to overseas duty in the Caribbean Command at the U.S. Army Hospital, Fort Clayton, Panama Canal Zone. He then entered Creighton School of Dentistry, Omaha, Neb., where he was a member of Delta Sigma Delta, graduating with a D.D.S. degree on June 3, 1959. While at dental school, Phil met Kay (Carol) Pryor and they were married at St. John's Church on Creighton's Campus on Aug. 17, 1957. Upon completion of Dental School, they moved to Burlington where Phil established his dental practice. Phil and Kay started their family of four wonderful children and felt blessed to raise their family in beautiful Vermont. Phil practiced dentistry for 34 years. He loved his profession, his patients and his colleagues with whom he worked. Prior to his retirement, he was joined in practice by his son, Philip, Jr. in 1988, and in 1997, his son John joined the practice. Phil was a member of the American Dental Association, the Vermont State Dental Society and the Champlain Valley Dental Society. He was honored by St. Michael's College as "Alumnus of the Year 1973", and also served as a St. Michael's College Associate Trustee. Phil was presently serving on the St. Michael's Golf Classic Committee and over the years was an active SMC basketball fan, cheering on the Knights with his good friend and neighbor Bob Geffken. He was committed to his community as a volunteer for the Salvation Army, Dismas House where he worked on the annual Dinner/Auction and COTS Phonathon. Phil was a long-time member of St. Mark's parish serving most recently on the Liturgy Committee. Phil became a Mercy Associate in 2000 and welcomed the opportunity to share in the liturgical celebrations and ministries of the Sisters of Mercy. He was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, joining the Knights while serving in the Panama Canal Zone. Phil enjoyed golf and was a member of the Burlington Country Club and also looked forward to many good sets of tennis with his friends Tony Pomerleau, Brian Riggie, Ben Trottier and Joe Handy. Immensely enjoyable were the memorable times of cruising, cribbage and poker on Paradise Found, with thanks and gratitude to his good friend Tony. He also valued his evenings with our Dinner Group friends. Phil was a long-time Notre Dame Football, Celtics and Red Sox fan, delighting in the fact that he saw Ted Williams hit "for the cycle". Above all, Phil was completely devoted to and proud of his beautiful family. He always looked forward to family gatherings, particularly loving a good board game or game of cards with the grandchildren. He also loved the outdoors enjoying the beach and fishing with the grandchildren or his adult buddies. Phil was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend and his presence and good humor will be greatly missed, but the

memories will live on. Phil is survived by his devoted, loving wife of 52 years, Kay (Carol); four children, Philip, Jr. and his wife Mary; Catie Cone and her husband David; Marge Skroski and former son-in-law Michael Skroski; and John and his wife Sarah; seven grandchildren Meghan, Philip III, Daniel, Stephen, Tyler, Darcy and Davis; three brothers and sister-in-law George Lavoie, Henri and Alice Lavoie, Br. Robert Lavoie, S.C.; three sisters, Claire Neves, Yvette and Paul Berube, Lucille and Omer Demers; Brother and sisters-in-law Paul and Lois Pryor, Louise Pryor, Bernadine Pryor, Barbara Pryor, Bonnie Pryor; and many special nieces and nephews. Phil was predeceased by his parents, two brothers, Arthur and Wilfred and sisters-in-law Claire, Dorothy, Irene Lavoie and brothers-in-law Frank Neves, Les Pryor, Bud Pryor, Keith Pryor, Gene Pryor and John Pryor; sisters-in-law and their husbands Marcellyn and Neal Kurtenback and Dr. Joseph and Mary Jane Pauley. The family wishes to express deep appreciation to Dr. John Fitzgerald, Donna and Lynn for their many years of compassionate and excellent care. Also sincere thanks to Dr. Joseph Winget, Dr. Dennis Sanders, Dr. Jeffrey Rimmer, Dr. Paul Danielson, Nancy, Cathy, Eileen and other numerous staff at the dialysis clinics. Also gratitude to Ann Laramie APRN, Leslie Boyd (McClure5), VNA nurses: Claire Weis, Chris Kaufman and the many other professionals and friends who offered Phil prayerful support, compassionate and competent care. One does not journey alone in this life and the family is profoundly grateful to all who have touched Phil's life in so many wondrous ways. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010, at St. Mark's Church at 10 a.m. A private burial will follow for the family at Lakeview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to: Edmundite Missions, Fr. Richard Myhalyk S.S.E., 1428 Broad St., Selma, Ala. 36701-4304 or Vermont Sisters of Mercy, 100 Mansfield Ave., Burlington, Vt. 05401. Visiting hours will be on Friday Feb 5, 2010, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Ready Funeral and Cremation Services, South Chapel, 261 Shelburne Rd., Burlington.