



Ernest F. Dittmer

January 18, 1921 - July 16, 2016

WEST SPRINGFIELD - Ernest F. Dittmer, 95, passed away peacefully on July 16, 2016 at Heritage Hall South in Agawam, MA. Ernest was born in 1921 in Hannover, Germany. He earned a degree in electrical engineering from the technical university in Ilmenau, Germany.

He was drafted late in World War II and was sent to Italy, where he promptly became a prisoner of war. He was held by the British in a POW camp in Egypt for four years until 1948 - three years after the war was over.

He married Charlotte (nee Schumann) in 1950. The couple had three children. In 1961 the family immigrated to the United States and settled in Massachusetts.

In the U.S. Ernest held various engineering positions with the Sprague Electric Company, General Instruments Corporation, Leybold Vacuum Systems, and Kollmorgen Electro-Optical.

His avocations included hiking, bird watching, and painting. He was a member of the Springfield Naturalist Club and a 50-year member of the Springfield Turnverein. He was also a member of the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club.

He was predeceased by his parents Gustav C. and Wilhelmine (nee Kasten)

Dittmer, a brother Gustav Dittmer, and a sister Gisela Dittmer.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years; their three children Doris, Joerg, and Joan; three grandchildren Alexandra (Heidi) Roche, Bjorn Roche, and Steven Dittmer; and a great grandchild Sebastian Roche.

The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Monastery Heights in West Springfield, Heritage Hall South in Agawam, and Ascend Hospice.

Per his request, there will be no services. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the Springfield Naturalist Club. New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA has been entrusted with the arrangements. Visit www.nefcc.net

We invite you to send a message of condolence to the Dittmer family at www.nefcc.net.