

Kenneth Batchelor

Kenneth Batchelor, 86, of Nobleboro, ME, passed away at his home with his loving family surrounding him on Saturday, April 7th 2018. Ken was born on May 30, 1931 in Bramley, England to his parents Arthur and Dorothy (nee Peters) Batchelor.



Kenneth Batchelor on his wedding day in 1954

Ken met and fell in love with his future wife at Technology College in England. Ken married Irene, (nee Gibbs), Batchelor, on August 21, 1954. Ken and Irene emigrated to the United States from England via the S.S. United States in September 1967, with their three daughters. They eventually settled in Port Jefferson, New York for many years.

Ken attained his Bachelor of Science in Physics honors degree from London University, England in 1953. He worked at Rutherford High Energy Laboratory in Chilton, England from 1953 to 1967. In 1965 he and his family spent a fifteen-month work sabbatical at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York. This eventually led to a full-time offer to design, commission, and operate a new proton linear accelerator. Ken's career allowed him many opportunities to travel to laboratories around the world, collaborating with fellow scientists. He visited China, Switzerland, Japan, France, Germany and

England, among many locations within the United States. He contributed to articles for McGraw Hill and McMillan Encyclopedias of Physics, and authored or collaborated on over 100 papers in scientific journals and conferences. His crowning achievement was being a guest on Jon Stewart's *The Daily Show* with Steve Carell in 2000, in a comedy piece about his work with particle accelerators.

Ken was a competitive athlete who enjoyed soccer, softball, tennis, bowling and golf. He coached youth soccer teams for the Village of Port Jefferson for several years. His family can attest to the fact that he was a fierce table tennis competitor, and his grandchildren all learned how to score a soccer goal from him. Ken is fondly remembered by his family and friends as a patient, quiet loving man, with a wicked sense of humor.



Ken loved the outdoors, and ensured that his family learned to appreciate nature as well. The family enjoyed numerous camping trips and hikes around New England. Ken also loved animals, both domesticated and wild. He was a strong advocate for social justice as well as wildlife conservation. He volunteered his time and donated financially to low-income housing organizations, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), soup kitchens and local food pantries, land preservation and conservation groups, peace protests and hunger walks. Ken was an active member and trustee of Mt. Sinai Congregational Church in New York for many years, and later at Edgecomb Congregational Church in Maine. He served as Moderator of the Suffolk Association of the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ from 1997 to 1999. In the late 1980's Ken was a founding member and ultimately served as President of the Suffolk County Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. He was a hands-on member, learning the ropes by assisting on a Lower East Side building project in New York City. In 1988 he attended Habitat International's annual meeting in Chicago, where the Suffolk County Chapter was officially recognized. It was following this meeting that the real work of this chapter began, and Ken was actively involved in building multiple homes within Suffolk County over the ensuing years for families in need of affordable housing.

Ken is survived by his wife of 64 years, Irene; three daughters, Lynne Warkentien of Waldoboro, Maine, Susan Wells of Jamesport, New York, and Wendy Innes of Wading River, New York. He is also survived by four grandchildren; Sarah Innes of Astoria New York, Rachel Wells of Rocky Point, New York, Geoffrey Wells of Jamesport, New York, and Amy Innes of Wading River, New York. He leaves behind two sisters; Iris Wallace, and Janet Childe, as well as nieces and nephews in England. He is pre-deceased by his parents.

A celebration of Ken's life will be held on May 26, 2018 , 11 am at Mt. Sinai Congregational Church, 233 North Country Road, Mt. Sinai, New York. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 4777, New York, NY 10163-4777 or Miles & St. Andrew's Home Health and Hospice, c/o Development Office, 35 Miles Street, Damariscotta, ME 04543.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Strong-Hancock Funeral Home, 612 Main Street, Damariscotta, ME 04543. Condolences and messages for his family may be expressed by visiting: www.StrongHancock.com.