



William Elmer Chalmers

June 26, 1919 - February 11, 2010

William E. Chalmers, of Annapolis, MD, a mechanical engineer and pioneer in robotics, died peacefully on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, MD. He celebrated his 90th birthday this past summer.

Mr. Chalmers founded Yankee Engineering and Yankee Products in 1946, specializing in materials handling. He was an innovator with several patents, who worked on projects as varied as local schools, the Baltimore Sun newspaper, Domino Sugar, NASA and the White House. His reputation also led to projects in Saudi Arabia, Israel, and India. He was one of the first Americans to incorporate robotics for industrial use and was honored to participate on an international standards commission. Mr. Chalmers was most proud of his company's continued growth, even during the tumultuous 1970's, and that he never had to lay off any employees. He maintained relationships with many of his employees even after his retirement.

Mr. Chalmers was a lifelong member of Kiwanis International and the Engineering Society of Baltimore. He volunteered to assist entrepreneurs through SCORE.

William E. Chalmers was born on June 26, 1919 in Baltimore, MD to the late Clifford I. Chalmers and Anna Ahlfeldt Chalmers. He attended Baltimore

Polytechnic Institute in Baltimore, MD, graduating in the class of 1937. He then began taking courses in engineering at University of Maryland. From 1938 to 1940, he was employed by North American Aviation and the Martin Company. In 1942, he was a civilian with the U.S. Army Air Corps working on G48 Gliders. He went into uniform in 1944.

Mr. Chalmers married Margaret C. Stroble, on June 21, 1940, and had five children: William E. Chalmers, of Herndon, VA; Kathleen Kondylas, of Newburyport, MA, Rita Collins of Trego, Montana, Margaret Chalmers, of Raleigh, NC; and Jeannette Warner of Easton, MD. He has six grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. He is remembered fondly for his humor and generous nature by his family, friends and Ginger Covers.

A memorial service in his honor will be held at Ginger Cove Friendship Hall, 4000 River Crescent Drive, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 on Thursday, February 18, 2010, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Inurnment will be held privately in Baltimore, MD.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Arrangements were handled by Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Cremation and Funeral Care, P.A., Annapolis, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Elmer Chalmers*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 11, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *William Elmer Chalmers*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *William Elmer Chalmers*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *William Elmer Chalmers*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *I had the wonderful pleasure of knowing both your mom and dad at Ginger Cove. They both had such great spirits of helping out. I will dearly miss Bill, as I have your mom these many years.##imported-begin##Phyllis Johns Smith##imported-end##*

February 19, 2010 at 12:24 PM



“ So sorry to hear about the loss of your Dad.
Jeannette may remember me as a fellow student way back when at Johnnycake Jr. High School and earlier. I saw the obit. in the Balitimoe paper and remember growing up in the Catonsville area until moving in 1968-69. Once again, I sorry to hear of the family's loss...##imported-begin##Christopher Seymour##imported-end##

February 18, 2010 at 07:30 AM



“ We have known Bill for 10 years and worked with him in various weekly Ginger Cove Thrift Shop activities. We thought he was a great guy and will miss his wonderful sense of humor.

P.S. We really enjoyed his million dollar pen that would write upside down!##imported-begin##Gil and Joni Moore##imported-end##

February 17, 2010 at 07:48 PM



“ To the Chalmers Family,

Our prayers and thoughts are with you .

Sincerely,

Janet and Pat##imported-begin##Janet Duncan##imported-end##

February 17, 2010 at 11:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I know that you all have great memories of your father that will last all your lifetime and will bring you comfort.*

I started working for your father at Yankee Engineering in 1964, so I have know Bill a very long time and it was always a pleasure being around him.

I think one of the things I will always remember is how he liked to keep a diary of things that happened each day in his calendar. I will miss hime reminding me to send them to him!

Joan Johns###imported-begin##Joan Johns###imported-end##

February 17, 2010 at 08:09 AM



“ *I served as a chaplain for Ginger Cove for six years. During that time I watched how your Dad cared so sweetly for your mother. Bill later became one of the most popular residents due to his charm and humor. My husband Sandy served in SCORE with him and remembers him fondly.*

He was a lovely, gentle man.

Joanna White###imported-begin##The Rev. Joanna White###imported-end##

February 16, 2010 at 10:00 PM