

David Louis Jenkins

David Louis Jenkins, 96, passed away at home on Monday, December 24, 2012.

Born October 15, 1916, at Newport Hospital, he was a life-long Newporter. Dave was the son of David Joshua Jenkins and Gertrude McCormick. His wife of 66 years, Sally, died in July of this year

Dave was the valedictorian of the Class of 1934, De La Salle Academy, proud of his medals in Latin, English, and Math. He worked as a brass molder at the Goat Island Torpedo Station and served in the US Navy during WWII as a Morse code operator on destroyer escorts on the North Atlantic convoy routes. Following the war and marriage he operated a number of local businesses, Vets Cab, Thrifty Car Rental, Western Union, and Bellagamba's Pizza. In his "retirement" he worked as property manager for several developers.

Dave was a determined athlete, excelling in basketball in the old city leagues, passionate about running and his late-blooming tennis prowess. He was a doubles regular at the Pop Flack courts, challenging players of all ages well into his eighties.

He is survived by his eight children, Michael Jenkins, Mary Hayes and her husband Michael, David Jenkins and his wife Karen, Sally Casey and her husband Steve, Anne Jenkins and her husband Chip Moatz of Leadville, Colorado, Patricia Dougherty and Dennis Dougherty, Dr. Kathleen Jenkins and her husband Michael McDonald of Silverthorne, Colorado, and Thomas Jenkins and his wife Amy of Paia, Hawaii. His sister, Mary Corcoran, of Newport, also survives him.

He was the brother of the late Earl Jenkins and Annie Armstrong.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dave's memory may be made to Friends of Newport Public Library, 300 Spring Street, Newport, RI 02840.

Calling hours were omitted at the request of the family.

A Mass of Christian burial was held on Thursday, December 27, 2012 at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, Spring Street, Newport.