



James F. Bowman

August 25, 1917 - November 22, 2011

James F. Bowman, 94, of Claverack, formerly of Weston, CT, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2011 at Columbia Memorial Hospital.

Born Aug. 25, 1917 in Niagara Falls, he was the son of the late Francis and Frances (Wahle) Bowman.

He served in the US Navy during World War II.

James received a B.S. from Colgate University and M.S. from Western Connecticut State College. He was an elementary teacher for the Weston Public Schools, teaching well into his seventies. He was a substitute teacher until he was 82 and earned the title of "oldest substitute teacher in New York State". James excelled in teaching; he was an influential role model to all of his students.

James was an avid History and Civil War buff. While he was studying for his Master's, he worked as a mink rancher in Ridgefield, CT. He was an avid tennis player and taught lessons in Weston, CT. James was also the director of Camp Whiteface Mountain in Wilmington, NY.

He is survived by his children, Michael S. Bowman of Claverack, Jorgen W. Bowman of Clifton Park, and Jamison F. Bowman of New Market, MD; his

brother, Richard Bowman of Florida; six grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Donations may be made to the Columbia Greene Humane Society, 125 Humane Society Road, Hudson, NY, 12534.

Arrangements are with the Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home, 110 Green St., Hudson, NY, 12534.

Tribute Wall

BG

“ I had Mr. Bowman 4th grade '73-'74 and remember so much about the class. Writing scripts for film strips we were hand coloring frame by frame, plaster of paris boxes for Christmas gifts, the names of at least 6 other students in that class, and his patience with each and every one of us. There were so many hands on activities I do not rememeber us sitting in our chairs very much. As a teacher today, I admire him recognizing each of our talents and helping us to capitolize on them but also introducing new things to us and giving us a chance to experience challenges. I don't remeber ever being afraid to try something new in his class as you were not judged or ever worried about failing. He will be missed but always remembered.

Barbara B. Greaves-Spurgeon Loganville, GA.

Barbara B. Greaves-Spurgeon - December 03, 2011 at 04:01 PM

CW

“ To Jim Bowman'sFamily,

I met Jim in 1970 when I started teaching in Weston. We will always remember him as a history and civil war buff. Jim usually showed up at school wearing a sweater and tie or sweater vest. It is funny how you remember certain things about someone. Jim shared his special interests with his students and was easy to work with. I am happy to know he continued to substitute teach. My deepest sympathy for your loss.

Christine Wood

Christine Wood - December 02, 2011 at 07:16 PM

CW

“ When Mr. Bowman was teaching 3rd grade at Weston Elementary my son, Adam, became his student (1985-86). Adam had failed 3rd grade the previous year and had a low estimation of himself and his abilities. We had moved a great deal and Weston was his 4th school in 4 years. I spoke with Mr. Bowman at the year's onset and told him of Adam's background. Right from the start he said that he would build up Adam's self esteem and not worry about grades. Well, he did just that. By year's end, Adam was a solid B student with many friends and involvement in sports. He helped my son so very much and I will always be thankful that he was my son's teacher that year. Adam is married with a child (another on the way) and has a great job working in marketing. I'm sure Mr. Bowman was an invaluable influence on many children during his long career and life. Cathy Whitby



Catherine Whitby - December 02, 2011 at 07:12 PM