Russell McWilliams

Russell R. McWilliams, 82, a resident of Littleton since 1953, died at Littleton House Nursing Home, in Littleton on April 8, after a long illness. He was born in Jerome, Iowa on Aug. 16, 1914, son of the late Robert and Maggie (Clinkenbeard) McWilliams. He was a graduate of Jerome High School and worked on his father's farm in Missouri for many years.

Russell came to Framingham where he was employed by Butterworth Florists as an orchid grower. He operated his own business as a landscape gardener in Littleton and Lowell and later for Nellie Craig Florist in Concord, and the Florist Council in Belmont. Mr. McWilliams also worked in the maintenance department at the W. R. Grace Co. in Acton for 20 years.

Russell was a founding member in the Littleton Colonial Minutemen where he held the rank of captain during the United States Bicentennial Celebration. He was responsible for the development of the teen-agers' fife and drum corps in the Minutemen. He was also a member of the Littleton Conservation Trust, the Littleton Historical Commission and the Littleton Sportsmen's Club. Mr. McWilliams was an active member and former president of the Middlesex County Dairy Goat Breeders Association and a member of the First Church Unitarian in Littleton.

Among his survivors are his wife Lois (Rice) McWilliams, a sister Mary Redburn of Illinois, several nieces and nephews, and great nieces and great nephews.

Private Graveside services will be held at a later date. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Volunteer Humane Society in Lancaster, or the Buddy Dog Humane Society in Sudbury.

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