



Mr. Walter Atkinson Damtoft

June 1, 1922 - September 22, 2011

Walter Atkinson Damtoft, 89, of Asheville died Thursday, September 22, 2011, following a brief illness. A native of Asheville, he was the son of the late Walter Julius and Dorothy Atkinson Damtoft. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife of 47 years, Janet Russell Damtoft.

His career as a journalist took him from Asheville to Charlotte, Washington, and Dallas before he retired to Asheville in 1992. One of his first positions was reporting for the Asheville Citizen in the early 1950s. He spent the largest part of his career as a writer and editor for the Washington, D.C.-based National Observer, where he reported on national events as well as consumer rights and travel. During this period, he also served on the Garrett Park (Maryland) Town Council. He closed his career in Dallas, as editor and publisher of the award-winning American Way, the in-flight magazine for American Airlines. Upon retirement to Asheville, he became involved with College for Seniors, Leadership Asheville Seniors, and RiverLink.

Mr. Damtoft was educated at the Asheville School and the University of North Carolina, where he studied journalism and became editor of the Daily Tar Heel. Like many of his generation, he interrupted his studies to serve in World War II, in which he served in the Pacific as a naval officer on the U.S.S. Sperry.

An enthusiast of life, he loved travel and adventure, embraced new technology, treasured his friends, guided his children and brought a smile to almost everyone who knew him.

Survivors include his second wife, Nancy Davis Reynolds Damtoft; two children, Russell Walter Damtoft and his wife, Linda Cornelius, of Bethesda, Maryland, and Lisa Damtoft, of Boston, Massachusetts; a sister, Anne Damtoft Campbell (Mrs. Robert F.) of Asheville and two grandchildren of Bethesda.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 60 Church Street, Asheville.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be directed in his memory to RiverLink, PO Box 15488, Asheville, NC 28813, or to MANNA FoodBank, 627 Swannanoa River Road, Asheville, NC 28805.

Cemetery Details

Trinity Memorial Gardens

60 Church Street
Asheville, NC 28801
<http://www.trinityasheville.org/>

Previous Events

Service

SEP 28. 2:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Episcopal Church
60 Church Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Walter Atkinson Damtoft*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Nancy,
You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.
Regards, Kate Roberts Henry*

Kate Roberts Henry - October 10, 2011 at 10:36 AM



“ *2 files added to the album New Album Name*



Martha Delaney - September 24, 2011 at 09:44 PM



“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Martha Delaney - September 24, 2011 at 09:27 PM

ML

“ *Martha L. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter Atkinson Damtoft*



Martha L. - September 24, 2011 at 06:00 PM

MD

“ *Martha Delaney lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter Atkinson Damtoft*



Martha Delaney - September 24, 2011 at 05:59 PM