



## Lt. Col. Mervyn O. Gadwah

July 11, 1918 - May 26, 2012

COLEBROOK, NH—Lt. Col. Mervyn O. Gadwah, 93, of Colebrook, NH, passed away early Saturday afternoon, May 26, 2012, at his daughter's residence and after a long period of declining health.

He was born in Stewartstown, NH, on July 11, 1918, a son to the late Victor and Jessie (Henson) Gadwah.

Mervyn enjoyed his early life in and around Colebrook, often recalling that he used to ride his horse to The Balsams to caddy for the actress who played "Betty Boop" in the early days of film. He also witnessed Charles Lindbergh land his plane in a field near Diamond Pond, perhaps inspiring his later career in the Air Force.

Mervyn spent 20 years in the military, first in the Army Air Force and then with the new Air Force branch upon its formation in the late 1940s. He was a navigator in the Air Force, and his tours took him to many places throughout the U.S. and in Europe. His service included both World War II and the Korean conflict. His children remember fondly that while stationed at different places, he took them to every museum, cathedral, and many other sites all over the world so that they would be culturally literate. He retired from the Air Force in the early 1960s at the rank of Lt. Colonel.

After his service, Mervyn returned to northern NH and began a twenty-year career with the First Colebrook Bank, retiring as the head cashier and treasurer.

He was an avid outdoorsman who loved the natural world, and to hunt and fish; and he was also a passionate golfer. Mervyn was also a member of the American Legion.

He is survived by his daughter, Linda Lewis and husband Greg of Colebrook; his son David Gadwah of Colebrook and Dover, NH; three step-children, Porter Schoff, Brett Schoff, and Lucy Schoff; three brothers, Norman Gadwah of Louisiana, Glendon Gadwah of Boscawen, NH, and Victor Gadwah, Jr., of Meriden, Conn.; a sister, Esther Huntley of Conn.; three grandchildren, Christopher Paquette and wife Judy, Shari Gadwah and partner Dennis Clooney, and Marissa Taylor and husband, Humbert; six great-grandchildren, Jessie Wheeler, Grace Marie Clooney, Brooke Clooney, Cyrus McCauley, Caitlin McCauley and Bridgette McCauley; and one great-great grandchild, Brenden Rowell.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 33 years and his life-long friend and companion, Florence Gadwah, in 2011; his second wife, Eva Gadwah; three brothers, Leonard, Clement, and Vern Gadwah; a sister, Hilda Stoffer; and a grandson, Ryan Gadwah.

There will be no public calling hours. A private family graveside service, with military honors, will be held at a later date at the Colebrook Village Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made in Lt. Col. Gadwah's memory to the Northwoods Hospice, 120 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Colebrook, NH 03576.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to [www.jenkinsnew](http://www.jenkinsnew)

man.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home, Colebrook, NH.

# Tribute Wall

BC

“ David and Linda, so sorry for the loss of your Dad. I will always fondly remember your Dad-taking me fishing on Big Diamond Pond.  
Bill Clay

Bill Clay - March 12, 2018 at 04:58 PM



“ Linda, Greg and family, we are sorry to read of Mervyn's passing. He was a very nice, caring person and a pleasure to know. He will be remembered in our prayers.##imported-begin##Joeng & Mike Divney##imported-end##

June 04, 2012 at 04:37 PM



“ We were saddened to learn of your father's death. Please accept our sincere condolences.  
Bruce and Connie Latham##imported-begin##Connie Latham##imported-end##

June 04, 2012 at 12:47 PM



“ David and Linda, I am so sad to hear of Uncle Mervyn's passing. I remember that he and Aunt Florence were married on the same date as I first got married. He was always so full of fun. My mom (his sister, Esther) was remembering lots of times when they were young. She said he always had a twinkle in his eye. She is currently in the Meriden Center due to a stroke. She also sends her love to you all.##imported-begin##Bette DeMayo and Esther Huntley##imported-end##

May 29, 2012 at 12:32 AM



“ Linda, David and families - I have so many great memories of growing up and times spent with your family. As I think of your Dad, vanilla ice cream with maple syrup immediately comes to mind! I'll always remember your Dad and Mom with sincere fondness. They were wonderful people. Love, Rosemary##imported-begin##Rosemary Mulliken##imported-end##

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May 28, 2012 at 08:00 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to you David, and all your family. I have a lot of great memories of Mervyn and Florence. We use to have a ball at the senior dinners, will cherish those days, Love Keith and Billie Brockney##imported-begin##Keith and Billie Brocckney##imported-end##

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May 28, 2012 at 06:14 PM



“ Uncle Mervin was a fun man to know. His dry wit could cut like a knife. I spent many a night playing cards with him, Florance, my late wife, Dave and linda. R.I.P Uncle Merv.##imported-begin##Berkley Gadwah##imported-end##

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May 28, 2012 at 02:26 PM



“ Greg & Linda - many thoughts and prayters on this day as we remember our veterans.##imported-begin##Ginger Jannenga##imported-end##

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May 28, 2012 at 06:07 AM



“ Words cannot express the sadness that I felt when I heard of Mervyn's passing. I am so sorry, David and Linda, to hear that your dad passed. Uncle Mervyn was a great guy. From across the miles, I send my most heartfelt condolences and love to the family.##imported-begin##Jill Gadwah##imported-end##

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May 27, 2012 at 07:30 PM



“ Thinking of you at this sad time. Our sympathy to all. Sue and Fred##imported-begin##Sue Miller##imported-end##

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May 27, 2012 at 06:27 PM



“ Linda, Greg & family,  
So sorry to read of your father's passing.....you're in our thoughts.....##imported-begin##Adam & Lisa Cheney##imported-end##

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May 27, 2012 at 04:03 PM