

# Osborne Fredrick Tapley Obituary

MERIDEN - Osborne Fredrick (Fred) Tapley, Jr., beloved father and grandfather, son of the late Ethel Rassmussen and Osborne Tapley, passed away at Langdon Place in Nashua, N.H., on Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, at the age of 84.

He was predeceased by his wife, Florence (Bette) Tapley; his brother, Curtis Tapley; and two sons, Mark Tapley and Paul Tapley.

Mr. Tapley was born in Morristown, N.J., on Jan. 6, 1925, but lived in Meriden for most of his life. Mr. Tapley, was a U.S. Marine, served with distinction on the USS Boston Cruiser from 1941 until 1945, participating in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

He received numerous decorations and citations. After the war, Mr. Tapley worked as an ironworker and then as a plant engineer for Marlin Firearms, retiring after 20 years.

He remained active after retiring as an avid hunter and fisherman, as well as a talented woodworker.

He restored the ship bell of the USS Boston, which now sits in the Boston Naval Shipyard and was chosen to lay a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

He was a lifetime member of the USS Boston Shipmates, the Survivors of Iwo Jima, the American Legion, a member of the VFW Post No. 59 of Wallingford, and also a Mason.

He was a lifelong member of the Nutmeg Beagle Club and Turner Hall Society.

Mr. Tapley is survived by his sons, Jonathan Tapley and David Tapley and wife, Eunsil; daughters, Marcia Devine and her husband, Steven and Lisa Bellinger and her husband, Arthur (Tony); stepsons, Dean Karrass and his wife, Sharon and John Henry Percy and his wife, Hyo-Suk; three grandsons; two step-grandsons; and two step-granddaughters.