

Robert Arthur Montgomery, 66, passed away, Saturday August 18, 2007, at home in Canaan, Connecticut. A long time resident of Housatonic, MA., he was born in St. Stephen, N.B., Canada on June 1, 1941, the son of Arthur Moses and Thelma Marie Watters. He was educated in local schools in St. Stephen, N.B. and attained his contractor license from Taconic Vocational Technical School in Pittsfield, MA. His first large scale contracting was building the Aberdale buildings in Housatonic in 1972.

He moved, with his parents, from New Brunswick to Housatonic in 1960 from Upper Mills, N.B., While a young man in N.B. he joined the Cadets, was a Queens Scout and eventually enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force from which he was honorably discharged.

Bob was an avid hockey fan and player. He coached his son Robert from a young age and taught him how to play. There were many 4 AM and 5AM Saturdays driving to the rinks just to get ice time. They both loved the game and Bob was very dedicated to it. He was also a Red Sox and New York Giants fan. In addition Bob loved to play pool and had won many trophies and tournaments.

He married Terry Rice on December 9, 1995 in Sheffield, MA. They were residents of Canaan, CT at the time of his death. Bob had worked for many years as a self-employed carpenter. Terry and Bob both enjoyed spending their summers at the Canaan campground.

Bob leaves his former wife, Sharon Rufo Koperek of Housatonic, MA., a daughter Tammy Mintz of Housatonic, MA., a son, Daniel Karpinski of Pittsfield, MA. and five grandchildren. His eldest grandchild Allan, currently serving with the U.S. Army in Kuwait, and his wife Becky are expecting a child in December which would have been Bobs first great-grandchild. He also leaves his mother, Thelma Montgomery of Housatonic, MA, two sisters, Pauline Montgomery and Constance DelMasto both of Housatonic, MA. and three brothers, John of Pittsfield, MA., Paul of Egremont, MA., and Timothy of New York, N.Y. Bob was predeceased by his son Robert Louis, December 13, 1997, two brothers, Peter May 24, 1992 and Allen May 13, 1954 and his father, Arthur, August 17, 2005.

Calling hours will be held at the Roy/Birches Funeral home in Great Barrington, Mass., on Thursday, August 23, 2007 from 4-7PM. All are invited to attend a celebration of Roberts' life that will be held on August 24, 2007, at the Housatonic United Methodist Church, officiated by the Rev. David Rogers. The family has requested donations be made to the United Methodist Church of Housatonic, Mass., or to the church or charity of one's choice. He will be interred at a later date, with his son Robert, at a private family ceremony, in St. Bridgets cemetery in Housatonic, MA.