



## Russell Hartung

April 30, 1935 - August 31, 2011

### Obituary of Russell Hartung

Russell M. Hartung of The Villages, Florida died August 31st, 2011 after a prolonged illness. Russ was born April 30th, 1935 in Schenectady, NY. He graduated from Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake High School and then went on to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY where he received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He subsequently attended Penn State where he was awarded a Masters degree in Mathematics. Russ spent most of his early career as a mechanical engineer working for the Aerospace Program at General Electric through collaboration between GE and NASA. It was here that he worked on the early design of the lunar landing module for the first mission to the moon. Eventually he was made a systems engineer for GE. Later in life he worked for General Railway Signal in Rochester, NY (which gave him a chance to be professionally involved in one of his favorite hobbies " trains). While at GRS he was awarded several patents for railway signaling and switching devices. His career eventually took him to Connecticut to work with General Dynamics as an engineer in the development of nuclear submarines through their subsidiary Electric Boat. Russ is survived by his wife of 54 years, Joan Columbe-Hartung, (who was born in Plattsburgh, New York but now resides in The Villages, Florida), and by his son Dr. Russell Hartung of Plattsburgh, NY. His other son David George Hartung predeceased him by only a month " dying suddenly this same year. Russ is also survived by his

brother, Edward Hartung of Fort Wayne, Indiana. His grandchildren include Sean and Jessica Hartung from Durham, North Carolina, Alex Hartung of Rochester, New York, and Genna Hartung of Plattsburgh, NY. Russ will always be remembered for his amazing intelligence, his passion for learning, and his boundless curiosity about the world around him.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, September 24, 2011, at 11:30 AM at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 5195 East County Road 462, Wildwood, FL 34785.

#### Services

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