

Howard Albert Nachtrieb

Born April 5th, 1913, in Victoria, British Columbia, Howard Albert Nachtrieb passed away peacefully at home in Bellingham, Washington, on January 31, 2009. Howard, the child of William Ellsworth Nachtrieb and Clara Maude Nachtrieb of San Francisco and then Victoria, became a citizen of the United States at age 21. A resident of Bellingham since the 1950's, Howard was the owner of the State Street Laundry, and a funeral director prior to his retirement.

Born near Bridge Street, Howard had fond memories of growing up in Victoria, particularly paddling his dugout canoe in the inner harbor. He attended Victoria High School, and then embalming college in Reno, Nevada during the 1930's. Howard lived for a time in Pocatello, Idaho, served in the Pacific Theatre as a Navy medic during WWII aboard the U.S.S Rawlins, and was one of Whatcom County's earliest scuba divers. He had a life-long passion for photography and videography, was active in Bellingham Kiwanis and a member of the Masonic Order for over 75 years. He was especially proud of his time as scoutmaster of Bellingham's Troop 5.

Howard is preceded in death by his sister, Ruby M. Hill, his brother Bill Nachtrieb, and Reda Albright Nachtrieb, his wife of 18 years.

Howard is survived by his wife Betty Jo Allsop, with whom he shared a wonderful nine years. Also by son Han and his wife Shawn Nachtrieb, and grandson William Nachtrieb. A large family shared Howard's life as a father and grandfather including, the Rev. Thomas Albright and his wife Carol, Doug and Jan Albright, John and Mary Allsop, Mike and Maya Allsop, Jim and Darcy Allsop, and their children and grandchildren. Family services will be held privately at home on Lake Whatcom.