

# Donald Jenkins

*Retired engineering professor*

*Pine Grove*

GILMANTON — Donald Ralph Jenkins, 85, died at his home in Gilmanton Iron Works on Jan. 17, 2009, after a brief illness.

He was born in New Brunswick, N.J., on May 1, 1923, to Ralph A. and Rachel (Osborne) Jenkins. He graduated from Rutgers University and Lehigh University with degrees in mechanical engineering.

During World War II he served in the Army Air Corps in the European Theater as a first lieutenant (navigator on a B24 Liberator bomber). He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters.

For 40 years, he taught mechanical engineering, 34 of them at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., as an associate professor. He spent many of his formative years on Crystal Lake in Gilmanton Iron Works and retired there in 1987.

He was a member of the First Congregational Church in Pittsfield and the Winnepesaukee Lodge 75 FA&M.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years Lavinia (Burns) Jenkins; his daughters, Winnie and her husband, Richard Ru-

bino of Brookline, Mass., and Rachel and her husband, Jan Ciemiecki of Worcester, Vt.; his son, Ralph of New Paltz, N.Y.; his granddaughters, Jamie and her husband Jesse Moore, and Janell Ciemiecki; his grandsons Ryan Rubino and Blair Ciemiecki; and a great-grandson, Wesley Moore; two sisters, Marjorie Conover of Fenton, Mich., and Patricia Penn of Hendersonville, N.C.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Gail and his sister Eleanor Reynolds.

Visiting hours will be Friday, Jan. 23, from 4-7 p.m. at Peaslee Alton Funeral Home, 12 School St., Alton. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24, at 11 a.m. in the First Congregational Church in Pittsfield, with the Rev. Dave Stasiak, pastor, officiating. Interment will be in the spring at Pine Grove Cemetery, Gilmanton Iron Works.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Community Health and Hospice, 780 North Main St., Laconia NH 03246.

To express condolences, please visit: [www.peasleefuneralhome.com](http://www.peasleefuneralhome.com)