



## Arthur J. Hamel

January 1, 1

Arthur J. Hamel, 86, of Methuen, passed away on Saturday, January 21st in Boston following a short illness.

Arthur was born on December 15, 1930 in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to Mae and Walter Hamel and grew up in the South Lawrence area. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, and was the first member of his family to attend college, graduating from St. Anselm College in 1956. He later earned two Masters degrees, in education, from State Teachers College at Boston, and in the teaching of chemistry from the University of New Hampshire. He married Mary (Nyhan) Hamel on August 25th, 1956 and they made their home in Methuen.

He served his country as an Electronics Technician in the United States Coast Guard before dedicating the majority of his professional life to education at North Andover High School. He was a chemistry teacher, 1957-1973, assistant principal, 1973-1990, and business manager, 1990-1992. Committed to the student-athletes of North Andover, he coached baseball for seven years as an assistant to his mentor, the legendary George ? Benny? Lee, and managed the town's community basketball program under Richard ? Dick? Licare. Arthur was inducted into the Johnson-North Andover High School Athletic Hall of Fame in March, 2015.

He was a devoted member of St. Monica Parish in Methuen and supported the parish, both as a church volunteer and as a member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. He also blended his lifelong passion for education with a love for the outdoors as a Boy Scout leader with Troop 55, in Methuen, and as Camp Director and a senior staff member North Essex Council Boy Scout Camp, Camp Onway, in Raymond, NH. He was also a skilled woodworker, his talent demonstrated in the many pieces of furniture that grace the homes of his extended family. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, including his and Mary?s children and seventeen grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, and children, including Michael and his wife, Ginny, of

Silver Spring, MD; Kathleen, and her husband, Michael Courtois, of Salem, NH; William and his wife, Donnie, of Ashland, ME; John, and his wife, Cathy, of Methuen, MA; Jerome, and his wife, Tanya, of Ponte Vedra, FL; and Paul, and his wife, Jennifer, of San Rafael, CA, and his seventeen loving grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Walter; and his daughter, Mary Elizabeth.

Family and friends will honor and celebrate Arthur's life by gathering for calling hours at the Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence Street in Methuen on Wednesday, January 25, 2016 from 4 ? 8 PM. His Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 9 AM on Thursday at St. Monica's Church in Methuen. Burial will follow at St. Mary/Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Lawrence.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested memorial contributions be made in Arthur's name to St. Monica's St. Vincent de Paul Society, 212 Lawrence St. Methuen, MA 01844 or to the Central Catholic High School Scholarship Fund, 300 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA 01841. The Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hamel family.

# Comments

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“ Dear Hamel Family:  
On behalf of the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Washington, D.C., we send our sincere condolences for the loss of Arthur. Our nation – and our military – has lost one of its finest citizens and patriots. While we grieve with you, we take comfort in knowing that Mike – his son and our dear Pentagon colleague – will continue the Hamel tradition of service before self. Arthur was an inspiration to his family and friends, and a role model for all to emulate.  
Robert G. Salesses  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense

**Bob Salesses** - January 26, 2017 at 09:01 PM

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“ Dear Mrs. Hamel and family, deepest sympathy with the loss of your husband and father. I went to school with Jerome at Saint Monica's, and I live a few houses from you on Sycamore. Thoughts and prayers are with you all, Mary(lynch) Geraghty and family

**Mary Geraghty** - January 25, 2017 at 06:07 PM

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“ Dear John, Cathy and family. My deepest sympathy in the loss of your Dad. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. Marilyn

**Marilyn Mangano** - January 25, 2017 at 02:35 AM

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“ Dear Mary and family,  
I'm so sorry I am unable to attend services for Arthur due to illness. You would know that if I could I would be there. I know it is going to be hard, but you, like myself, have your family and a large array of friends to help you get through this very difficult time. May Arthur already have seen the face of God, and please know that I'm praying for you.  
God bless you Mary, your old friend,  
Joan Green Park

**Joan Green Park** - January 25, 2017 at 12:16 AM

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“Artie” Hamel, as we called him, was a big, scary man to us when we were in high school. He was the one who had to discipline the troublemakers at North Andover High School. I often got into trouble and had to deal with Mr. Hamel a lot. For some reason, the guy took a liking to me and gave me a ton of useful life lessons. He became a friend to me and I grew to love the guy. I credit him for putting me on the right path in life. Although I haven't seen him in many years, I feel a little empty today knowing he is gone.

**Kamal Asar** - January 24, 2017 at 09:53 PM

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“Please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of your dear husband, father, grandfather. Mr. Hamel was a Master Teacher who had a great influence on my life. I knew him as a very good and kind man, a teacher who really cared about us, his students. I am forever grateful to him.

**Lyn Licciardello** - January 24, 2017 at 11:38 AM

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“My most heartfelt condolences to wife and family of Mr. Hamel. I graduated from North Andover High School in 1968. I had Mr. Hamel for homeroom for 3 years and also for chemistry. He was always pleasant and fair to all students and was well liked. I can still remember the wonderful smell of his pipe and will remember him fondly.

**Patricia Davenport** - January 24, 2017 at 12:24 AM

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“My heart aches for Mary, Kathy, John and the entire Hamel family. Arthur was like an uncle to me and the best friend to my dad for over seven decades. I will remember him as a strong but caring man. Our families spent lots of time together growing up and I have great memories of Mr. H from childhood to adulthood. What I am most thankful for is the lifelong friendship that Mary & Arthur shared with my parents. Whether it was going to dinner, lunch, the movies, the beach, a trip to Alaska or just spending time together, he was a constant in my parents' and my family's lives. We will miss him enormously.

**Mary Kate Eisenhaur** - January 23, 2017 at 02:41 PM