

Robert Goodell Brown of Thetford Center, VT, born April 14th, 1923, passed away in his sleep on October 3rd, 2013. He moved to the Upper Valley from Vernon Valley, NJ, in 1976, and was an active member of the community here, performing with the Parish Players, founding the Light Opera of Norwich (LOON), serving as a Selectman in Norwich, and was an active patron of Latham Library in Thetford Hill. He documented the restoration of the pipe organ at the Congregational Church in Norwich, the covered bridges in Union Village and Thetford Center, the bridge on Route 132 between Union Village and Stafford, and Ledyard Bridge between Norwich and Hanover. He was known for his love of Shakespeare, Gilbert & Sullivan, and Handel's Messiah. An avid reader and deep thinker, Bob was quick to voice his strong opinions on matters ranging from politics to the Bible, and backed up those opinions with well-researched facts.

He was a longtime member of the American and British Inventory Control Societies (APICS and BPICS, respectively), the International Society of Forecasters, and the American Mathematical Institute. He received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Yale University where he sang with the Glee Club and was on the Swim Team. Bob served in the Navy during World War II. While working with the Operations Evaluation Group (OEG), he was a project engineer on the BOMARC missile; had a hand in creating the Stock Keeping Unit (SKU); and was on the team at OEG (administered by MIT) that developed what became the prototype for the Air Defense System for North America. He developed Brown's Exponential Smoothing twice; once while at OEG developing ASW tactics, and again while working for Arthur D. Little in Cambridge, MA. He served on the faculty at Northeastern University, Dartmouth College, Boston University, and Lehigh University; developed the LOGOL and TWIGS software systems; worked with IBM, Saturn, M&M Mars, Ford Motors, Ciba Geigy, John Deere, and the Rand Corporation among others; and was the founder and president of Materials Management Systems Inc.

His publications include Statistical Forecasting for Inventory Control, 1959; Smoothing, Forecasting and Prediction of Discrete Time Series, 1963; Decision Rules for Inventory Management, 1967; Management Decisions for Production Operations, 1971; Compiler Source Book in Production Management, 1971; APL-Plus 747 Forecasting Users Guide, 1973; Materials Management Systems, 1977; Advanced Service Parts Inventory Control, 1982; Shirley He Hath Born, 1984; LOGOL Systems Manual, 1985, rev. ed., 1994; Twigs Systems Manual, 1988; Consultantmanship, 1993; The Tall Boy Scout Playing Tennis, 1994; The People of the Old Testament, 1994; and My Psalter, 1994.

Bob is survived by his children: Todd and wife Katherine of Jefferson, MD; Jeffery currently working on the grain harvest somewhere in the mid-west; Ayamanatara (nee Shirley) and husband Rick of Los Angeles, CA; and his grandchildren Paul of East Liverpool, OH and Tate of Bradford, NH. He was married three times first to Marion Parsons, then to Ingeborg, and the last time to Susan Hehre of Haverhill, NH. A gathering of family and friends celebrated Bob's life at his home in Thetford Center on Sunday, October 06, 2013. His presence will be sorely missed.

As a memorial, the family asks that donations be made in his name to your local or favorite library.