

WALTER EPPENSTEIN Obituary Condolences

EPPENSTEIN, WALTER WYNANTSKILL - Walter Eppenstein, age 91, beloved husband of Bertha Cavanaugh Eppenstein, died on Saturday, December 31, 2011 at Samaritan Hospital in Troy. Born in Berlin, Germany, he was the son of the late Franz Joseph and Margarethe Bachmann Eppenstein. He attended schools in Germany and received his BS Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1942 from Roberts College in Istanbul, Turkey. He received his MS in Physics in 1952 from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy. He worked at RPI for 44 years as an Assistant Professor of Physics and in 1966 became the Associate Chairman of the Physics Department until his retirement in 1991. He was a member of the Rensselaer Retirees Forum, American Association of Physics Teachers, American Society for Engineering Education, Congregation Berith Sholom in Troy, Phalanx at RPI, Sigma Pi Sigma and many others. He was predeceased by his first wife, Julia M. Hirsch Eppenstein, who died in 1966. He is also survived by one daughter, Deborah Saitow of Lincoln, NH, his stepchildren, Jack Shea of Virginia Beach, VA, Richard Shea of Schenectady and D'Arcy Shea of Delmar, 8 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by a daughter, Judith Merkbein, a son Jonathan Shea, and sister, Ilse Ruth Eppenstein. A Memorial service will be held on Friday, January 6, 2012 at 11 AM at the Chapel + Cultural Center at RPI, 2125 Burdett Ave, Troy, with Rabbi Debora S. Gordon of Congregation Berith Sholom, Troy, officiating. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Walter Eppenstein Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, RPI Physics Department, 110 8th St., Troy, NY 12180-3590

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