



Robert J. Thomas

January 5, 2010

Robert J. Thomas, 97, passed away peacefully at the Shipley Manor Health Center, Wilmington, Del. on January 5, 2010.

Born and raised in Lowell, Massachusetts, Bob was the son of the late Robert R. & Gertrude (Connell) Thomas. After graduating from Lowell High School, Bob attended Lowell Textile Institute where he received a Bachelors of Textile Chemistry. Then in 1939 he earned a PH.D in Organic Chemistry from the University of Notre Dame.

Shortly thereafter he started his career with DuPont as research chemist at Chambers Works in the Organic Chemicals Department, Dyes and Chemicals Division, Technical Laboratory where he worked until his retirement in 1977. Bob and his colleagues developed methods for dyeing synthetic fibers. During WWII, he worked on the Manhattan Project.

For most of his life, Bob resided in Penns Grove, NJ, where he was

affectionately known as "Doc Thomas". Bob had a strong dedication to St. James Parish and was active in church associations as well as local civic organizations. One of his favorite pass times was playing golf at the Sakima Country Club.

Bob is survived by his wife of 67 years, Rita, two sons, Robert Thomas and his wife, Bonnie of Wilmington, Del, and James Thomas and his wife Roxanne of Walkersville, MD; two daughters, Elizabeth Gamble and her husband Robert of Little Silver, NJ and Gertrude Kasianchuk and her husband Paul of North Conway, NH; four grandchildren, Lauren and Kaitlyn Thomas, Walkersville, MD, Anastasia Kasianchuk, Corvallis, OR and Andreava Kasianchuk, North Conway, NH, and a sister-in-law, Katherine Thomas, Kingston, MA. He was predeceased by two sisters, Mary Thomas and Gertrude Thomas and his brother, Richard Thomas.

A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Adams Funeral Home, 18 E. Maple Ave., Penns Grove, NJ 08069 on Friday night, January 8, 2010 from 7 till 9pm. On Saturday morning, January 9, 2010, a viewing will be held at the funeral home starting at 10am followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11am at St. James R.C. Church, 114 State St., Penns Grove, NJ 08069. Interment will take place at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Woodstown, NJ. The family has suggested that donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Research Foundation, 1236 Ginger Crescent, Virginia Beach, VA 23453 in Doc's memory. Condolences can be emailed to www.adamsfuneralhome.org