Harold C. Tindall
Harold C. Tindall, 104, of Grinnell, died March 2, 2019, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center. A graveside service and burial will be held at Greenwood Cemetery, Trenton, New Jersey, at a later date.
Memorial contributions may be designated to the Harold C. Tindall Memorial Fund.

Harold Cook Tindall

Harold Cook Tindall passed away peacefully on March 2, 2019, at the age of 104. He was born in Trenton, N.J. on Sept. 23, 1914. He grew up on his family’s dairy farm and left high school at the age of 16 to enter the work world. Although he did not have any further formal education he was a life-long learner and was self-taught in many skills and subjects.

He married his wife of 65 years, Jean Ellen Knowles, on April 19, 1941, and they had two sons, Bob and Dan. Harold was a family man. He raised hunting Spaniels and enjoyed many years of training and working the dogs with his two sons. He also enjoyed participating in the boys’ various sports activities as a “coach” and spectator. Harold also enjoyed landscaping his homes and tended his flower gardens with meticulous attention.

The family spent summers on a small lake in Maine where Harold had purchased a lot and built a cabin. They had a motor boat and he and the boys were avid water-skiers. Harold was still slalom skiing well into his 70s. After the boys left home, he and Jean spent time in the winter months in Maine and loved to go snowmobiling with friends. In their senior years, they were able to do some traveling and particularly enjoyed a trip to England to celebrate their 6th wedding anniversary and visit Jean’s family’s ancestral village.

Harold had worked in various professions throughout his life. In his early married life he was a milk man and a gas station attendant. Later, he worked for the Princeton School district as head carpenter/physical plant director. After his retirement from the school district, he was employed at the Princeton Theological Seminary where he was their carpenter and handyman. It was there that he met Albert Einstein. They became casual friends and Harold worked on various projects at Dr. Einstein’s home. Harold said that knowing and working for Dr. Einstein had a profound influence on his life.

Harold always enjoyed adventure and at age 100, Harold’s birthday gift from his son, Dan, was a ride in a hot air balloon. He said that it was one of the highlights of his life and he was very proud to share that experience with his friend at Mayflower.

When Harold’s wife, Jean, passed away in Sept. of 2006, he relocated to Grinnell, Iowa, to be closer to his son, Dan. He moved in the Spring of 2007 to The Mayflower Community where he resided until his death. He was always grateful for the wonderful care he received from the staff at Mayflower and for the great friendships he made there.

He is survived by a son, Bob Tindall (Susan), daughter-in-law Kathy Tindall, granddaughter Danielle Tindall Carr (Bryan), step-grandchildren Kimberly Waig (Mike), Jennifer Planans (Armir) and seven step-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean, and son, Dan Tindall.

When asked Harold said he would like to be remembered for the love of his wife, Jean, their family, and their 65 year marriage. He also wanted to be remembered for being hard-working and kind-hearted.

A celebration of Harold’s life will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 15, in the Buckley Hall Dining Room on The Mayflower Campus. He and Jean’s ashes will be laid to rest at Greenwood Cemetery in Trenton, N.J.

Contributions in memory of Harold can be made to The Mayflower Human Needs Fund.