

## LONG ISLAND

# Arthur M. Reid Jr., standout sailor and longtime teacher

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STAFF WRITER

Arthur M. Reid Jr. of Manorville, a champion skipper and retired schoolteacher who taught sailing and science to a generation of students, died Oct. 6 from skin cancer. He was 75.

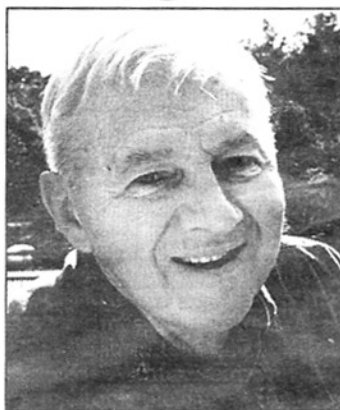
Reid, known to friends as "Mel," died in an ambulance while being rushed to Brookhaven Memorial Hospital in East Patchogue, said his daughter, Laura Reid of Manorville.

Arthur Reid won the 1980 Around Long Island Regatta as captain of a North Coast 30 called Bet-Laur-Nan, after his wife and two daughters. Eight years later, he piloted the Sempier Fi to victory in the second Long Island Sound Regatta.

"We had so many trophies, we could have had them in a room from floor to ceiling," said Laura Reid, an anesthesiologist.

Arthur Reid's varied career included stints as an engineer, teacher and contractor. He grew up in Whitestone and graduated from Bayside High School in 1949. As a boy, he sang at the Church of Heavenly Rest in Manhattan and played trombone in the high school band. He graduated from the State University at Potsdam in 1953.

Reid served in Korea and retired from the Marine Reserves as a major in 1979. He orga-



Arthur M. Reid Jr.

nized an annual ball marking the anniversary of the Marine Corps, his daughter said.

"He had incredible perseverance, and he was always ready for everything," she said. "He was always a military man, even after he retired. He still acted like he was in the military. Everything was always, 'Yes, sir.'"

After working briefly as a civil engineer in New York City, Reid embarked on a teaching career in 1956. He taught for a year in the Northport School District and then, for 26 years, in the Harborfields School District, where he taught high school science. He retired from Harborfields in 1983, then served for two years as assistant dean of students at the SUNY Maritime Academy. After leaving the academy, he built custom homes for 11

years, retiring in 1996.

Reid spent 14 summers teaching sailing at yacht clubs in Port Washington, Sea Cliff, Northport and Southampton, his daughter said. Reid and Laura, then 10, won the 1971 Penguin Internationals at the Babylon Yacht Club. They tried to defend the title the following year in Colorado, but lost. "We broke our mast three times, and he kept repairing it," Laura Reid said.

Arthur Reid and his family took pleasure cruises together to Fishers Island, Shelter Island and Block Island. Reid often sailed in winter "frostbite" races, with his first wife, Betty, or one of his two daughters serving as crew. "We sailed whether it was hailing [or] snowing," Laura Reid said. His younger daughter, Nancy Reid of Setauket, is an architect and schoolteacher.

Reid was married and divorced twice, first to Elizabeth Bruce, now of Hauppauge, and later Betty Minson, now of Setauket.

Besides his daughters, Reid is survived by a sister, Eleanor Revere of Flemington, N.J., and two grandchildren. He was buried at Calverton National Cemetery on Oct. 9 following a funeral at St. Anselm's Episcopal Church in Shoreham.

Contributions may be made to Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45250-0301, Attn: Gift Processing.