

## EVERETT PARKER POPE

Everett Parker Pope, 90 BATH -- Everett Parker Pope, 90, died Thursday, July 16, 2009, at Hill House in Bath, where he had been living since September 2008. Born in Milton, Mass., on July 16, 1919, he was the son of Laurence Everett Pope and Ruth Parker Pope. After graduation from North Quincy High School, he attended Bowdoin College, graduating magna cum laude and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He enlisted in the Marine Corps after graduation, and after basic training and completion of officer's candidate school in Quantico, Va., he married Eleanor Hawkins, his high school sweetheart. In June of 1942, he deployed with the First Marine Division to the Pacific. He served with the Division at Guadalcanal and in the New Britain campaign, receiving the Bronze Star Medal for valor. In the First Marine Division's assault on Peleliu in September of 1944 he led his reinforced rifle company in an assault on heavily fortified Japanese positions, an action for which he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. The citation reads in part: 'Subjected to pointblank cannon fire which caused heavy casualties and badly disorganized his company while assaulting a steep coral hill, Capt. Pope rallied his men and gallantly led them to the summit in the face of machinegun, mortar, and sniper fire. Forced by widespread hostile attack to deploy the remnants of his company thinly in order to hold the ground won, and with his machineguns out of order and insufficient water and ammunition, he remained on the exposed hill with 12 men and 1 wounded officer determined to hold through the night. Attacked continuously with grenades, machineguns, and rifles from 3 sides, he and his valiant men fiercely beat back or destroyed the enemy, resorting to hand-to-hand combat as the supply of ammunition dwindled, and still maintaining his lines with his 8 remaining riflemen when daylight brought more deadly fire and he was ordered to withdraw.' After the war he returned to Boston and joined Workingmens Cooperative Bank. In 1953 he was named president of that institution, making him the youngest bank president in New England. For many years he was a leader in the savings and loan Everett Parker Pope industry, pioneering the use of interest-bearing checking accounts. He was a long-standing supporter of the federal student loan program and served as the first Chairman of the Board of Massachusetts

Higher Education Assistance Corporation in 1982. He retired from the banking business in 1983, and moved with Eleanor to Brunswick. He served on the governing boards of Bowdoin from 1961 when he was elected to the board of Overseers until 1988 when he was elected Trustee Emeritus. During his tenure on Bowdoin's governing boards, he chaired two presidential search committees, co-chaired a capital campaign, and provided wise leadership as President of the Overseers and Chairman of the Board of Trustees during a period of transition for the College away from the fraternity system. After stepping down as Chairman, he led the effort to establish a memorial on the Bowdoin campus to the graduates of the College who died in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He was the recipient of two honorary degrees from Bowdoin, in 1946 and 1987. The 1987 honorary degree citation ends with the following: 'Semper fidelis as a U.S. Marine, you have also been semper prudens, always wise and far-sighted as a colleague and counselor. We salute your many years of service to the common good and declare you honoris causa, DOCTOR OF LAWS.' In his retirement years, he lived at Amelia Island, Fla., and on Great Pond in Belgrade Lakes, with his beloved wife of 66 years, Eleanor, who died at Hill House on Jan. 22nd of this year. He is survived by sons Laurence and Ralph, their wives Elizabeth and Jean; and two granddaughters, Eleanor and Elizabeth. There will be a service celebrating the lives of both Everett and Eleanor in the Bowdoin College chapel at 4 p.m. on Friday, July 31, followed by a reception. Burial of both will be at Arlington National Cemetery. The family wishes to express its deepest appreciation to the staff of Hill House for the devoted care they provided during this difficult time. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Pope Scholarship Fund at Bowdoin College.