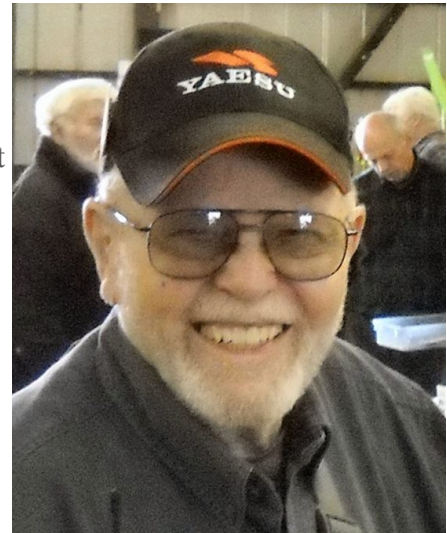


Darrel L. Daley, 82

Darrel Daley of Putney died at home on December 16, 2018. He was born in Porterville California to Leonard and Helen Daley (Scharlepp). Darrel grew up in this farming community in the Great Central Valley of California. Upon graduation from high school he joined the US Navy and became a navy musician. His first “overseas post” was Kodiak Alaska. There he met Marion Collani, who was doing her first year of teaching after graduating from Montclair State Teachers College in N.J. They married in December 1957. After discharge from the navy Darrel began college at Pasadena City College and then Los Angeles State College. After he earned his B.S. degree the couple took teaching positions in Chugiak Alaska. Their original plan was to teach there a couple of years and then return to the “lower 48”. That time period stretched out to two decades! Darrel and Marion both taught at the elementary level until the new Chugiak High School was built. Then Darrel took the position of music/band director. He continued at that job until retirement in 1983.



Back in the early 1960s, Chugiak could be described as a pioneering community. Folks were pushing through roads, drilling wells, building their own homes on Home Site properties. Darrel undertook the building of a huge addition to their log home. This he succeeded in doing and the family moved into their expanded quarters in 1974. By that time they had two sons, Daren and Matt. Darrel took his sons on hunting and fishing trips, camping in some of the most beautiful and rugged country that Alaska has to offer.

In 1978, the family piled into their pick up and camper to drive to Putney where Darrel was to attend a photography workshop. They discovered the beauty of the Green Mountain State and bought 10 wooded acres in Putney. Each following summer they traveled to Vermont to work on the land. When Darrel retired they moved everything they owned by U-Haul and trailer to Putney where the house was to be built. The house site was on land overlooking the Connecticut River and the Great Meadows of Putney. They moved into their new home in 1984, and have been there ever since.

Darrel was a man of many talents; house building, photography, chess, musician. The hobby that gave him the most pleasure was ham radio. When the house was designed there was a dark room and a Ham Shack included. He spent many hours enjoying many aspects of that hobby.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Marion; son, Daren Daley; his wife, Debbie, their daughters, Kayla Daley and Brittany Parker; Great-Granddaughters, Caitlyn and Melynnie, all of Texas; his son, Matt, and his wife, Reiko and their daughter, Amanda, who live in Hokkaido, Japan.

A celebration of his life will be held in April at Centre Congregational Church. Memorials in his name may be sent to Centre Congregational Church or to the West River Radio Club, P.O. Box 8087, North Brattleboro VT 05304