

## The Flowers of The Forest

### Rowan Penrose Perkins II CMSI # 84s, Past Secretary/Treasurer

When the last *Gardien* was being printed, we had just learned of the death of CMSI pioneer and supporter Rowan Perkins. We had asked for prayers for his recovery in the newsletter, but it was not to be. The following has appeared on the CMSI website. We continue to ask for your thoughts and well wishes for Rowan's family, for his wife Monty, and the Perkins children and grandchildren. We will miss his wisdom and unending support!

Rowan Penrose "Perk" Perkins was born in New York City and died peacefully at home in Newark, DE, surrounded by family on April 20, 2008, after a brief battle with acute leukemia. Rowan was a veteran of World War II, having joined the Navy under the V-12 program. He graduated in February 1946 from Purdue University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He was with the Naval Reserve until 1948. He earned his MBA in 1971 from the University of Delaware. Rowan worked for 10 years for Riley Stoker Corp. in Worcester, MA, working on all phases of boiler design, sales, construction, operation, testing and troubleshooting. In 1956, Rowan began working for E.I. DuPont de Nemours Co. in the Engineering Services Division in Newark, DE, retiring in 1991 after 35 years. He worked on many projects including the distribution of power costs to various products on all Textile Fibers Dept. sites, served as chair of the Power Standards Comm. for 12 years, chaired the Dowtherm (high temperature heat transfer media) Comm. for 20 years, conducted a successful demonstration of a coal-water slurry burn in an industrial boiler for the Electric Power Research Institute, testified before a U.S. Senate committee for the Industrial Boiler Owners Assoc., did a lot of work with company plants on energy conservation, developed a project with the Dept. of Energy for a high temperature heat transfer for a non-combustion gas turbine, served on several American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Power Standards Committees including the executive committee, and authored over 30 technical papers. He was a nationally recognized expert on the use of reverse air fabric filters to all but eliminate particulate emissions from coal-fired boilers. In 1991, Rowan was elected a Life Fellow in ASME. Through his work, on the 200th anniversary of the DuPont Co. in October 2002, the Brandywine River Powder Mills became an ASME Historical Landmark, the only one in Delaware. After retiring, he started his own consulting business. In conjunction with another firm supported by government AID funds, Rowan gave talks on energy conservation to companies in several Eastern European countries, including the Ukraine, Romania and the Czech Republic. He also worked for the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) doing energy conservation training of 3 engineers in Nizhy Novgorod, Russia, in 1995. Rowan was a member of several professional organizations and societies. He was also a member of Clan Gunn Society and Clan Montgomery Society International. While a member of CMSI, he served as Secretary/Treasurer, was the membership data base manager for many years, and along with his wife "Monty," was the regional co-representative for the Mid-Atlantic region, hosting as many as 14 clan tents



Rowan and Monty Perkins in happier times at the 1996 CMSI AGM in Atlanta, GA. John C. Montgomery was able to furnish this picture from his collection.

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