Edward Marshall, 86, died June 1, 2014, he was born on November 15, 1927

Ed began beekeeping in the 60's when he was transferred to Fairbanks while still serving in the USAF. Ed lived in North Pole and had stopped in at the general store. While there, he overheard some discussion coming from the upstairs meeting room. He asked the manager of the general store what was going on upstairs and the manager told him it was the local beekeepers meeting. Ed was interested and the manager told him they were a friendly group and to go on up. Needless to say, Ed was hooked! He began beekeeping at his home in North Pole. Unfortunately, when he retired and moved to Anchorage, he had to put beekeeping on hold as he had a new job with Chevron which required him to travel.

As with everyone, Ed had several transitions in life: new job with the Anchorage School District, adjunct French instructor at UAA/ACC, new marriage, new home.

When Ed and Colette moved into their first house on Peck, they were not able to keep bees, but luckily in five years, they moved to their new home on Patterson where they were able to keep bees. Both Ed and Colette began attending beekeeper's meetings at the NBA bank on the corner of C Street and Northern Lights. Fletcher Miller and Tom Elliot were the leaders of this beekeeping group. Ed began assisting Fletcher with bee checks, swarm recoveries, honey extraction and other duties.

Ed's zest for beekeeping stung Colette as well; from the time that they moved to their Patterson home in the fall of 1995, they began their love of beekeeping the following spring. They ran anywhere between two hives to 12 hives (at different locations) and served as mentors to new beekeepers.

Ed also served as vice president and president of SABA and donated time at the honey house at the Alaska Fair. Ed's humor, grand smile, and outspokenness endeared him to many.

Ed continued coming to meetings even after Alzheimer's had set in. Colette fondly remembers how gracious the SABA membership was when Ed would begin talking but was unable to make his point, and would ramble on.

By becoming involved with SABA, Ed and Colette's lives were enriched by wonderful people and friendships including Fletcher, Tom, Steve, Donna, Ty, Cindy, Ben, Tang, Stacey, and Mark.

As Ed often said--Beekeepers are the nicest group of people!

From the Anchorage Daily News:
Edward Marshall
Obituary

Edward Marshall, 86, died June 1, 2014. Ed was born on November 15, 1927 in Detroit, Michigan to Morgan and Mary Marshall.

After living for the last five years with Alzheimer's; it released its grip on Ed in the early morning of June 1, 2014, at Linda's Place, an assisted living home in south Anchorage. Those who knew Ed, remembered a lively, dynamic man who spoke his mind openly but always flashed that shining smile which immediately won people over. Ed jokingly referred to himself as "Le Grand," -the great one, which he was to those who loved him. Ed's passing leaves the world less vibrant and a bit sadder. Ed work for Chevron, ASD at both SAVE and West High

and at ACC/UAA as a French instructor. Prior to being a teacher, Ed came to Alaska in the early 60s and served in the U.S. Air Force, retiring January 1967, in Fairbanks before moving to Anchorage.

Ed leaves his wife and companion of 34 years, Colette Mongeau-Marshall; his sister-in-law, Brenda McGurn; niece Fallon McGurn; brother-in-law, Matthew Mongeau and his wife Ginger; mother-in-law, Adeline Mongeau; son James Marshall of Detroit; former wife Barbara Marshall and their children Lynn Raynr, Armand Marshall, Tracey Marshall, Michelle Steinkemper, and numerous grandchildren including Jordan, Luke and Miles.

Interment of Ed's remains will be at Fort Richardson in September. A remembrance of Ed's life will take place at the Eagle River VFW, 10527 VFW Rd, on Saturday, September 27 from 4-9 p.m. For information on the remembrance send inquiries to aramis@alaska.net

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Ed's name to Alzheimer's of Alaska, Hospice of Alaska or Friends of Pets.