Ellis Lapin

2/21/17-9/8/2014

Died in Larkspur Ca. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Harriet Taylor Sheppard Lapin, daughters by a previous marriage, Nancy Clark of Oak Park IL, Claudia Lapin, of Santa Barbara, CA, stepsons Dan Sheppard, Draper, Utah, Jeff Sheppard, Larkspur, CA, and their families, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He was the elder of the two sons of Benjamin and Bella Lapin. Ellis was born in Chicago and reared in Philadelphia. He was a graduate of Drexel U and California Institute of Technology and a member of several academic honor societies.

Ellis had a four decade career in aeronautics, professional engineering societies, aerospace engineering spanning airplane design from cloth-covered propeller-driven craft to jet-propelled civilian and military airliners, experimental supersonic airplanes and missiles, and development and operation of early satellite systems for reconnaissance and surveillance for which he was honored by the US Air Force and the National Reconnaissance Organization.

He authored papers on aerodynamics, satellite surveillance and wind turbines during his employment at Douglas, Rand, Aerojet and the Aerospace Corp.

Published in San Francisco Chronicle from Oct. 11 to Oct. 12, 2014