Laboratory retiree, Eugene Henderson Eyster of Los Alamos passed away at Sombrillo Care Center on Feb. 17, 2013. Gene was 98 years old. He was born on March 21, 1914 in Wheaton, Minn. He married Joyce Krenz, also of rural Minnesota on Jan. 6, 1942. They celebrated 71 years of marriage this past January.

They spent 4 years of the Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh, followed by work in Indianhead, Md. and Washington, D. C. In 1948 they came to Los Alamos. Gene retired from the Lab in 1980.

Gene graduated from Wheaton High School. He received his bachelor's from the University of Minnesota in 1935. He studied at the University of Michigan and received his doctorate from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, Calif. in 1938.

Gene enjoyed and deeply cared for his work in Los Alamos. Those were exciting years. He was a good father and fine husband. His family is proud of his accomplishments. Gene is survived by his wife Joyce and by five children; Susan Roybal, Peter and wife Kathy, James and wife Jacque, Barbara and husband Keith Van Pelt and Robert, his brother Bruce, 12 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Gene was a founder and member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. He served there in many ways. He was the instrumental in the building of Sombrillo Care Center.

Gene and Joyce have lived in the same town, gone to the same church, lived in the same house and with the same spouse all the years in Los Alamos. It has been good. Thank you to all who have made his years so good.

A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. on March 23 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Gene's name to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2390 North Road, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

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