



Bernhard Axel Bang

January 12, 1924 - August 1, 2009

Bernhard (?Bing?) Axel Bang, a lifelong Baltimorean, died peacefully on August 1 at his home with his wife and daughters present. He was born in Baltimore on January 12, 1924, the youngest child of Axel Frederik Bang and Carol Millicent Klee Bang. After graduation from McDonough School, he attended John Hopkins University, earning two engineering degrees. From 1943-1946 he served as an officer in the navy and spent time on board a minesweeper in the Pacific. He returned home to marry Elizabeth Ann Fisher, also of Baltimore, on June 29, 1946. When his children were young, he received an MBA from Drexel Institute through night and correspondence classes. Later he carried his love for the water, and tolerance for storms, to the Chesapeake Bay where he sailed for forty years, guiding friends and family through coves and shipping channels. An engineer specializing in reliability, he helped to develop aspects of radar, various cameras and undersea diving equipment while at Bendix, Martin Marietta and Westinghouse. One of his projects was a camera used in the Apollo missions. Not one to leave his skills at the office, he was known as the neighborhood handyman, always ready to help fix a friend's appliances. As a young father, he developed and printed his own black and white photographs. As technology evolved, so did his skills. He regularly participated in critiques at the local camera club and then, in his eighties, began to manipulate his digital images in Photoshop. Retirement gave him an opportunity to pursue his love of unusual wood grain. He designed and made one-of-a-kind clocks from

wood that he discovered in local specialty shops during his frequent visits to examine the scrap bins and new stock. He exhibited his clocks in several craft shows. He also used his retirement to help his wife Betsy deliver Meals on Wheels. Last year they received an award for twenty years of service. At his home of 52 years on Wickford Road, he propagated azaleas and upon his move to Broadmead last year, landscaped gardens around the apartment. He was an active member of Second Presbyterian Church for many years and then instrumental in the formation of the St. Andrews Christian Community. In addition to his wife, Elizabeth Fisher Bang, he leaves his daughters: Barbara (Bonnie) Lounsbury and her husband Ben, Catherine T. Papantonio and her husband Andre, Emily Jackson and her husband Charles (Chip); eight grown grandchildren: Barton and Natalie Lounsbury, Martha and Kristen Tubman, Rebecca and Christopher Dawson, Chad and Eric Jackson; and many friends. All will miss his calm listening ear, his thoughtful analytical approach to problems, his youthful creativity, and his ready humorous comments, even in the face of approaching death.

Funeral Arrangements

A memorial service will be held on Saturday September 26 at 2:30 at the home of the St. Andrews Christian Community, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore Maryland 21210.

Memorial Donation

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, attn. Membership Department, 6 Herndon Ave., Annapolis, Maryland 21403 in memory of Bernhard A. Bang.

Interment Arrangements

Interment private.