

## Obituary



**Dr. William Gerencer**

Dr. William Gerencer of Waterville, Maine passed away on Sept. 28, 2009. He was born Sept. 30, 1929 in Fruitport, Michigan. He was raised on a family farm with 12 brothers and sisters. He received his D.V.M. from Michigan State University in 1951. After graduation, he served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in Germany where he met his wife Jeanne, who was a nurse in the U.S. Air Force. In 1961 he moved to Maine where he joined Dr. Kenneth Eskelund (a former classmate at MSU) in establishing Maine Poultry Consultants, where Bill provided veterinary services to a thriving broiler industry, a large egg producing industry, and hundreds of small egg farms. A few years later they also established Northeast Laboratory Services to provide microbiological and chemistry services to agricultural and other industries.

After the demise of the Maine broiler industry in the mid-1970s, Dr. Gerencer provided out-of-state consulting services, especially to the booming Del-Mar-Va broiler industry. When Avian Farms became headquartered in Waterville, Maine, with world-wide distributors, Bill provided veterinarian services for them for over 10 years, traveling to 52 countries in Asia, Europe, and South America. He was a long-term member of AAAP and attended their annual scientific meetings every year until 2008.

Bill was a devoted husband and father to 6 children. He loved hard work, gardening, and good food. He enjoyed the outdoors including hiking, skating, cross country skiing, and socializing with many friends, often at parties held at his cottage on Great Pond in the Belgrade Lakes region. In later years, Bill was predeceased by his wife and two sons. He is survived by 4 children and 11 grandchildren.