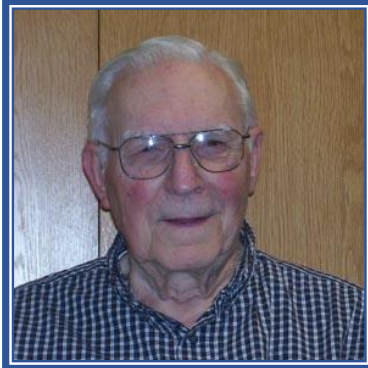




New Hampshire Veterans Home

139 Winter St.
Tilton, NH 03276



Raymond "Ray" Stauble

Resident Spotlight - June 2020

Ray was born on Independence Day, July 4th, in Mt. Vernon, NY and grew up in East Chester, NY with 2 younger brothers. He has always loved music and as a child, he played the piano and cello. Ray joined the US Air Force in 1950 and after basic training, worked as a Senior Radar Operator stationed in Labrador, Canada. He spent his time in the military searching for enemy planes. Ray says, "the radar stations must have worked as a deterrent, because in two years, I never saw a single one." He added, "while in the military, nothing really happened. I flew in a lot of planes though."

During his last few months of service, Ray began writing to a woman back home named Barbara. After leaving the service in 1953, he went to meet her for the first time. Barbara was a such a sweetheart and a very good Catholic, two aspects Ray sought in a woman. They were married in 1955 and went on to have four daughters and two sons. Ray proudly relayed, "there were two outstanding women in my life—my mother and my wife."

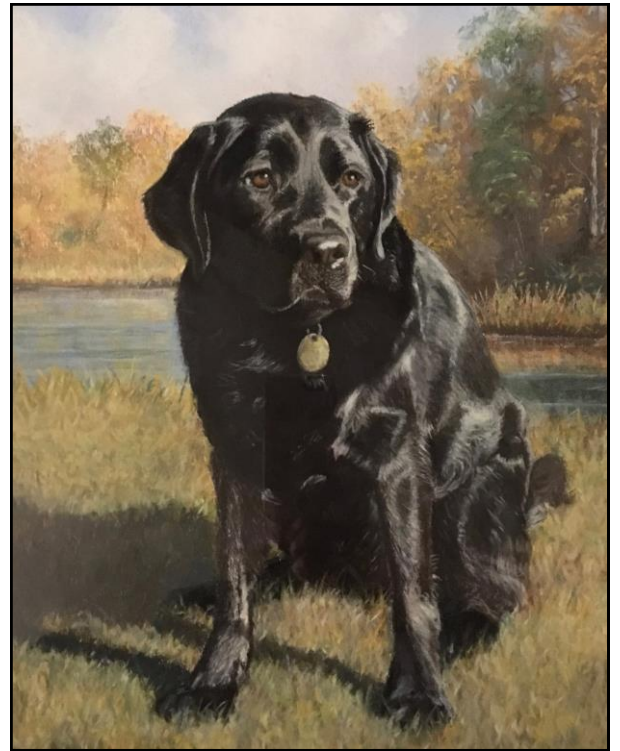
After his time in the service, Ray worked as a carpenter, building several houses in NY. At one point, Ray purchased 50 acres of land in Maine. He then built a five-bedroom house for his family on the land but in order to complete the house, he had to live in and operate out of an 8'x12' shed. This house was originally planned to be a vacation home, but his family loved Maine so much, they quickly decided to live there full time. Later on, Ray became an auditor for Equifax used his knowledge of carpentry to become an insurance inspector.

After retirement, Ray discovered a hidden talent when he took up painting. He eventually realized that he could get commissions for his portraits. Ray's son helped him to start a website where Ray found that people weren't interested in pictures of people, but of their pets! "I probably painted 30 humans and over 200 dogs. Dogs were faster to paint because they were mostly hair and therefore didn't have to be as detailed as a human's portrait," he explained.

Ray has been at the New Hampshire Veterans Home since November 2015. He is still very artistic and still enjoys painting from time to time. He continues to attend Catholic Services as his faith helps him cope with life's ups and downs. Ray enjoys music, animal visits, and socializing with others. The advise he has for others is to "keep your nose clean, have a religion and believe in God."



A sample of Ray's painting talent.



Some of Ray's beautiful paintings.



Thank you for sharing your amazing history and talents with us, Ray!

