

# Chester Roberts

## *Biography*

*F. Chester Roberts, 97, of Gloucester, passed away Wednesday afternoon, March 6, 2019 at the Gloucester Healthcare Nursing Home in Gloucester. He was the beloved husband of the late Lydia (Bevilacqua) Roberts. Born in Ipswich, he was the son of the late Edward F. and Marion F. (Andrews) Roberts. He was a graduate of Gloucester High School with the class of 1938. He continued his education by attending the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston supporting himself by several jobs including two summers at Tip Top House on Mt. Washington and clamming including being down river on the day of the great hurricane of 1938.*

*In 1942 with the country plunged in a World War, Chester decided to attend Officer's Candidate School in FL and Yale University in CT. He graduated from Yale with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. In early 1943 he was shipped to New Guinea as an aircraft maintenance officer for the remainder of the war. Upon his honorable discharge in 1946 he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant.*

*A casual meeting with an old acquaintance informed Chester of an opening for Tuba in the Pittsburg Symphony Orchestra, he auditioned, got the job and held it for five years. An opening arose in the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra under the baton of George Szell and he spent the next fifteen years playing with them.*

*Upon his return to Gloucester he bought a home and began teaching at Gordon College in Hamilton and other schools in Boston. Although retired, his love of music led him to play in the Rockport Legion Band for many years.*

*He is survived by his brother, Eugene A. Roberts and his wife Nancy of Essex and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. His Graveside Service will be held at Sumner Street Cemetery, West Gloucester in early spring. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations in Chester's name may be made to the West Gloucester Trinitarian Congregational Church, 488 Essex Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Arrangements by the Campbell Funeral Home, 61 Middle Street, Gloucester.*

*From*

[F. Roberts Obituary - Gloucester, Massachusetts - Campbell Funeral Home \(tributes.com\)](https://www.tributes.com/obituaries/fchesterroberts)