



## James Z. Gailun

February 20, 1919 - April 29, 2009

Dr. James Z Gailun, 90, of West Hartford passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at a local nursing home. Born and raised in Hartford, he graduated from Marianapolis Prep School in Thompspon, CT and The Catholic University of America, in Washington, D.C. Dr. Gailun graduated from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston, MA in 1944. He served his country in World War II as a lieutenant in the Army Dental Corps. He returned to Hartford, where he practiced dentistry until he retired in 1987. He was a lifetime member of the American Dental Association and a former president of the Hartford Dental Society. Dr. Gailun became famous in an unusual field as he earned the title "Champion Mushroom Picker in the East." Really, he was a mycologist, a scholar in the study of mushrooms. He belonged to the Boston Mycological Society and the North American Mycological Society for many years and forayed for wild mushrooms in forests around North America and Europe. He gave detailed slide presentations to garden clubs and was a mushroom consultant to area hospitals. Jim is survived by his daughter, Janet Gailun of West Hartford, a son, Dr. Ronald Gailun and his wife, Jeanne of Longmeadow, MA., his former wife, Phyllis Gailun of West Hartford, his 4 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren. Our family thanks the many care managers and staff at Mulberry Gardens, Sunrise of West Hartford, and Hughes Convalescent Home for their kind and loving care. Funeral services will be Monday, May 4th, beginning with a visitation at 9:00 am in the Molloy Funeral Home, 906

Farmington Ave West Hartford, followed by a mass of Christian Celebration in St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 872 Farmington Ave. West Hartford. Burial will be at a later time. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's memory may be to St. Thomas the Apostle Church, or the Alzheimer's Association, CT Chapter, 279 New Britain Ave. Kennington, CT 06037.