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**Pillsbury, George Sturgis**



91, died peacefully in his home on Lake Minnetonka in Orono, Minnesota, on October 13, 2012, surrounded by those who loved him dearly a hun-

dred yards from where he was born in 1921. The youngest son of John Sargent Pillsbury and Eleanor Lawler Pillsbury, George attended the Blake School, St. Paul's School in Concord, NH and Yale College (1943) where he rowed and captained the crew. Following his military service as a Marine Lieutenant in the Pacific Theater during World War II, he returned to Minneapolis where he wed Sally Lucille Whitney. To his last day, he said marrying Sally was the smartest thing he ever did. Sally and George moved in 1947, to New York where George headed the New York Export Office of the Pillsbury Company, a corporation founded by his grandfather Charles Alfred Pillsbury, in 1872. In 1951, George moved his family back to Minnesota, where he continued his work with the Pillsbury Company and retired as Executive Vice President in 1969, serving another 20 years on its board of directors. George served in the Minnesota State Senate from 1971-1982. As a senator, he supported family planning, education and government reform. He was a lifelong moderate Republican, crossing party lines to support Democrats and independents alike. During his time in the legislature, Senator Pillsbury advocated a unicameral state legislature. George never met a person he didn't like and treated everyone he met with dignity and respect. He leaves behind a legacy of involvement and citizenship, which has served as a model for his family. He and author Lori Sturdevant, documented this legacy in the book *The Pillsburys of Minnesota*. George relished the publication of the book, which included a tour through his family's ancestral home of Warner, New Hampshire. Of all of his values, he held none more sacred than his commitment to his family. His fondest memories were sporting his captain's hat on his boat on Lake Minnetonka with Sally and his children and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by siblings John S. Pillsbury Jr., Edmund P. Pillsbury, Ella P. Crosby, Charles A. Pillsbury, and Jane P. Resor, and is survived by his wife of 65 years, Sally Whitney Pillsbury, his four children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A memorial service is planned for 4 pm November 10 at the Wayzata Community Church. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made in his memory to Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.