Clifford August Rajala

A private family celebration of the life of Clifford August Rajala, of Gardiner, was led by his son, the Rev. David Rajala.

Mr. Rajala died Oct. 3, 2000. He was

He was born Nov. 21, 1922, in Ishpeming, Mich., to Alex and Rose Rajala.

Mr. Rajala joined the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served in various Pacific campaigns as a radio technician.

After graduating from the University of Michigan, he worked for the U.S. State Department and served as a vice-consul in Tabriz, Iran. He was a professor of geography and earth sciences at Eastern Washington University from 1958 until he retired in 1982 and moved to Gardiner.

Mr. Rajala is survived by his wife of 53 years, Ellen Elma Tamppari Rajala and sons Alex Rajala, of Adna, Jacob Rajala, of Ely, Nev., Fred Rajala, of Tumwater, David Rajala, of Lamont, Eric Rajala, of Clinton, Mont., and Robert Rajala, of Missoula, Mont.; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and close relatives in Finland.

Drennan & Ford Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.