

Ivars Bebris
8/7/1942 - 11/21/1987

Ivars Bebris died last November 21 at his mother's home in Rochester, N.H. for over 10 years he had struggled with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and since 1980 had been confined to a wheelchair.

Ivars was born in Riga, Latvia and lived in Germany and France until he and his family moved to the United States in 1955. He graduated from Spaulding (N.H.) High School as valedictorian of his class and received a scholarship to Dartmouth.

While at Dartmouth, Ivars majored in history and was cited for excellent academic achievement by the French department. After lettering in soccer for three years he was chosen a member of the All-American soccer team.

After graduation, he served in the US Army and then work for Hussey Manufacturing in North Brunswick, Maine. He remained with Hussey until he was diagnosed with ALS in 1976. Even when he became confined to his bed and wheelchair he continued to actively pursue his interest in writing, photography, and traveling -- including a trip to Mexico. During this period he won several ribbons for his photographic accomplishments.

He was always very active in his children's activities and this past summer coached a recreational youth soccer team using a special communicator. For the past two years, Ivars had been involved with the handicapped awareness program at the McLellan School in Rochester. He is survived by his mother, Vetta Bebris of Rochester and two daughters, Marris Bebris and Jane Bebris of West Lebanon, Maine.