



EDWARD M. CROSBY

Edward Crosby, 43, Cape boatbuilder

OSTERVILLE — Osterville boatbuilder Edward M. Crosby, 43, died Wednesday at New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston, ending a four-year battle with kidney disease.

An avid mariner since childhood, he served as first mate in 1956 on board the Yankee, owned by Irving M. Johnson, on the sailing ship's last around-the-world cruise.

Born in Hyannis, he was a life-long resident of Osterville, the son of Chester A.

and Ida (Kittila) Crosby, both of Osterville.

He attended Admiral Farragut Academy, Toms River, N.J., and was graduated from Barnstable High School in 1954. He later attended Brown University.

For a year after his return from duty on board the Yankee in 1959, Mr. Crosby began his own sailing charter business with the schooner Ida K.

He then joined his father and brother in the family business, Chester A. Crosby and Sons Boatyard, Osterville, and served as corporate treasurer.

Though tied to a kidney dialysis machine since diabetes began to affect his kidneys four years ago, Mr. Crosby stayed active in his family business and continued to build boats of wood with his own hands. At

the time of his death, he was building a steam engine and the boat it would power.

He also worked a small lobster boat out of Osterville and raced ice boats on Lake Wequaquet, Barnstable.

He maintained an interest in music throughout his life. The leader of a dance band while in high school, he was considered an accomplished pianist.

He was a member of the Catboat Association, the Mystic Seaport Association, the Small Boat Association and the Osterville Historical Society. He was a former member of the advisory board of the Cape Cod Bank and Trust Co.

Mr. Crosby was a communicant of Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Osterville.

In addition to his parents,

he is survived by his wife, Jean (Murphy) Crosby of Osterville; three children, Edward M. Jr., Karen E. and Jennifer M. Crosby, all of Osterville; a brother, Chester A. Crosby Jr., and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

A funeral will be held at

9:15 a.m. Saturday from the Doane, Beal and Ames Funeral Home, 160 W. Main St., Hyannis. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Osterville.

Burial will be in Mosswood Cemetery, Cotuit.