



MARVIN MARGOSHES

May 23, 1925 – January 12, 2018

Co C 382nd Infantry

Marvin Margoshes passed away January 12, 2018. He lived a singularly and typically American life marked by a loving family, service to his country and community, and educational and professional accomplishment. Margoshes was born in New York City on May 23, 1925 to Lillian (Lenorowitz) and Israel Margoshes. After graduating from high school in 1943, he enlisted in the Army and was assigned to the 96th Infantry Division (Deadeyes), which fought key battles on Leyte and Okinawa. Margoshes was awarded two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star. He later served as Vice President of his Infantry Division Association (<http://www.96thdeadeyes.org>). Using the GI bill, he earned a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry, focusing on infrared spectroscopy at the Ames Laboratory (Iowa State University). Over a career that spanned Harvard Medical School Biophysics Laboratory, the National Bureau of Standards, Block Engineering, and Technicon Instruments, he conducted basic research and developed new technologies, leading to several patents and more than 150 publications. His research covered spectroscopy and integration of laboratory and medical diagnostic instruments with computers. Projects included development of a novel multi-channel flame spectrophotometer which was useful in a range of applications, including analyzing bananas as a low-sodium food; the finding that bananas are high in potassium was considered less significant then, but in later years it became of great interest to the public. The instrument was also useful in the isolation from horse kidneys of metallothionein, an unusual cadmium/zinc-containing protein which continues to be the subject of considerable research today. He was president of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy and served on several American Chemical Society committees. He was editor of The Journal of Applied Spectroscopy, and Spectrochimica Acta. After retirement, he volunteered at Sarah Lawrence College and served on committees at the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Margoshes was also active in the community, serving on the Tarrytown School Board (President during the last three years of his term). He also served on committees at Temple Beth Abraham and the community. In addition to his wife of over 62 years, Miriam (Kagan), he is survived by his children Bethia (Kenneth Miller, sons Benjamin, Nathan), Sara (Barry Oppenheim, sons Alexander, Russell), Jessa (David Warshowsky, her son Ari), Dan (Allison May, children: Jacob, Lilyanne, and Henry), and his sister Sally Goldblum. Per his wishes, burial is planned at Arlington National Cemetery.

“Over a career that spanned Harvard Medical School’s biophysics laboratory, the National Bureau of Standards (now the National Institute of Standards & Technology), Block Engineering, and Technicon Instruments, Marvin conducted basic research and developed new technologies, leading to several patents and more than 150 publications. His research covered spectroscopy and integration of laboratory and medical diagnostic instruments with computers. Projects included development of a novel multichannel flame spectrophotometer, which was useful in a range of applications, including analyzing bananas as a low-sodium food. The instrument was also useful in the isolation of metallothionein from horse kidneys. Metallothionein is an unusual cadmium/zinc-containing protein that continues to be the subject of considerable research today.”—family of Marvin Margoshes

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/nytimes/obituary.aspx?n=marvin-margoshes&pid=187995660>