

IN MEMORIAM JOHN E. GOETT

John E. (Jack) Goett, of Monroe, Connecticut, 82, passed away on April 22, 1995 following a long illness. His iris hybridizing began in 1946 in New York, but a move to Connecticut in 1953 marked the beginning of the spectacular "Old Trees" gardens in Monroe, which housed not only hundreds of irises, but wildflowers and birds galore and was a mecca for visitors at all seasons.

Jack's best known tall bearded iris was MONEE (1960), a well branched deep blue. As a seedling, it was the first recipient of Region One's William J. McKee memorial medal; it also received the AIS HM award in 1961 and still grows lustily in many New England gardens. But Jack will best be remembered as one of New England's median pioneers. We owe much to KNOTTY PINE (1961), a lovely brown blend which not only won the Cook-Douglas Medal on its own merit, but was the progenitor of nearly all of the earliest SDB plicatas, including his own AM-winning CIRCLETTE (1963) and many of the Warburton plicatas and luminatas.

Jack's enthusiasm and knowledge was shared generously; he corresponded voluminously with other breeders, wrote numerous articles for local and national publications, served twice as President of the Connecticut Iris Society and was President of the very young Median Iris Society from 1962 to 1965. We will miss the man, but his work remains as his legacy.

Jack is survived by his wife, Merna B. Goett, of Monroe, and his daughter, Pamela Goett, of New York City, for whom the still popular soft yellow bitone SDB, PAMELA ANN (1965), was named.