

## College equine director, Ralph B. Gillis, dies

**HACKETTSTOWN** — Memorial services were held yesterday at Centenary College for Ralph B. Gillis, 53, director of Centenary College's Equine Studies program for the past three years, who died suddenly Saturday.

Under Mr. Gillis's direction, the Centenary equestrian team has won two consecutive titles as National Grand Champions of the 130-College Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. During that same period, the equine studies program grew to become the second largest program at Centenary.

A native of Woburn, Mass., Mr. Gillis lived in Washington Township. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

He came to Centenary from New Hampshire where he owned and operated a riding academy in Sunapee and was director of riding at Colby-Sawyer College, New London, and at New England College, Henniker. In addition, he coached the Dartmouth College Intercollegiate Riding Team.

In 1972, Mr. Gillis was elected to the executive board of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association and in 1974 he was elected president of the New England region of the association. He was a senior member of the American



**RALPH GILLIS**

Horse Show Association and a recognized judge in the hunter and hunt seat equitation division.

Survivors include his wife, Kathryn (née Woods); three sons, Bruce Gillis and Arthur and Kenneth Hatton; five daughters, Roberta Mantone, Deborah Garland, Kathleen Ellis, Linda Gillis and Karyn Moge; and ten grandchildren.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Agnes Church, Arlington, Mass., at 10 a.m. today and burial will take place at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Arlington, Mass.

† The Forum,  
May 9, 1979.

OBITUARY:  
Ralph B. Gillis.  
Date of Death,  
May 5, 1979.