

Edward A. Rowe Jr., owned chemical company

Oct. 22, 1944—July 16, 2011

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Edward A. Rowe Jr., a former owner of Grand Island-based chemical company IsleChem, died Saturday in Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, Amherst. He was 66.

Born in Cleveland, Mr. Rowe attended Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. He married his wife in 1966 on campus.

A holder of more than 20 patents in the chemical field, Mr. Rowe was a chemical engineer at Diamond Alkali, Diamond Shamrock and Oxychem before becoming an owner of Isle- Chem. In 1994, he was chosen as the Niagara Frontier Inventor of the Year.

Mr. Rowe was also an avid boater. He served as commodore of LaSalle Yacht Club in Niagara Falls and as rear commodore of Fairport Harbor Yacht Club in Fairport Harbor, Ohio. He was a member of Lodge 346, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Mr. Rowe is survived by his wife of 35 years, the former Helga Schanz; a son, Kurt; a daughter, Kelly Speer; and two sisters, Marilyn Houser and Phyllis Bender.

No public service will be held, but the family will be present from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday in Amigone Funera