

In September we are honoring the memory of former Artists' Undertaking Gallery member and dear friend, Jack Dyer, with an exhibit of many of his wonderful watercolors. Jack was a member of the gallery since October 2007. Jack found uncommon beauty in everyday common settings. As a plein air artist, Jack painted on location, bringing beauty to his watercolor creations of the buildings and landscapes before him.

This is what Jack had to say in his Artist Statement: "Painting outdoors, on site, in various weather, is like an adventurous field trip away from school; a chance to see, smell, listen walk around, even touch the subject, evoking a painter's response difficult to achieve in the studio. A sense of humor and humility are as important to my approach to a subject as brush, paper, or paint".

John Thomas Dyer, Jr. was born in Massachusetts on February 16, 1938, and departed this world on July 31, 2014 in Springfield, Virginia.

Jack was a graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art and took graduate courses at Boston University. He taught art in private schools and worked as a cartoonist and illustrator for The Boston Globe Publishing Company.

Jack retired as a Major from the United States Marine Corps, serving two years as a Marine combat artist in Viet Nam (1966 and 1968), and in the 1970's covered numerous NATO exercises. Jack served as the first curator of the Marine Corps' art collection and managed the combat art program until his retirement from civil service in 2003. In 2005, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation awarded Jack with The Colonel John W. Thomason Award "for best Marine Corps-related art work was presented to Jack Dyer, the former curator of the Marine Corps art collection who, over the course of three decades, deployed to numerous Marine operations and created hundreds of works of combat art".

The members of the Artists' Undertaking Gallery mourn the loss of Jack, and we send our love and condolences to Jack's wife, Rita, and his daughter Erin and family.