JOHN A. ROOSEVELT
March 13, 1916 – April 27, 1981

John Roosevelt was the son of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, the youngest of their six children. He was educated at Groton School and Harvard College (Class of 1938). On June 18, 1938, he married Anne Lindsay Clark in Nahant, Massachusetts. The couple had four children: Haven Clark, Anne Sturgis (Nina), Sara Delano (Sally), and Joan Lindsay. John and Anne were divorced in October 1965. He married Irene Boyd McAlpin a short time later.

After graduation from Harvard, John worked for Filene’s Department Store until 1941 when he joined the U.S. Navy. After the war, he was Regional Merchandising Manager for Grayson & Robinson Stores, Inc. in Los Angles, California. From 1948 to 1977 he was an officer and director of Roosevelt-Lee, formerly Lee Pharmaceuticals of Beverly Hills, California. In 1957, he joined Bache & Company, Inc. of New York. At the time of his death, he was a Senior Vice President and member of the Board of Directors for that company.

John was the only Roosevelt son who never ran for public office, but he was active in politics as a registered Republican. He also served on the boards of many organizations, including the Greater New York Council of Boy Scouts of America, Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship, Roosevelt University, the State University of New York, and the Governmental Affairs Committee. He was a member of numerous clubs and organizations. The General Correspondence Files in the papers reflect these interests.

The Roosevelts returned to the east coast in May 1951 and made their home at Val-Kill Farm until 1969. At the time of Eleanor Roosevelt’s death in November 1962, the papers from her Hyde Park home and New York City apartment were kept by John. Much of this material is found in the Family Correspondence series in this collection. For example, the Anna Roosevelt correspondence contains numerous letters to her mother which match responses from Mrs. Roosevelt found in the Halsted Papers. John also took care of business and financial matters for various family members and acquaintances.

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