



Benjamin Franklin Ritenour

May 19, 2014

Benjamin Franklin Ritenour Born 4/3/1913 at Seven Fountains, Va, the son of Lorenzo Mayberry Ritenour & Mary Alice Clem Ritenour Died 5/16/2014 in Woodstock, Va Age 101 Benjamin Franklin Ritenour passed away peacefully, at the Consulate Health Care facility in Woodstock where he had resided for the past nine years. Known to family and his many friends as, Frank, he will forever be remembered for not just his easy style and gentle ways, but the history he was a part of during his participation in the liberation of a German concentration camp during WW11. Mr Ritenour was a lifelong resident of Shenendoah County, working as a carpenter at the start of WW11. After joining the US Army and the completion of bootcamp, he eventually attached to the 14th Armour Division of the 3rd Army, commanded by Gen George Patton. Frank was assigned to a tank brigade as a tank crewman and wounded in Belgium during enemy action for which he awarded the Purple Heart. In addition, Mr Ritenour received THE AMERICAN THEATRE SERVICE RIBBON, THE EUROPEAN/AFRICAN & MIDDLE EAST SERVICE RIBBON, THE WW11 VICTORY RIBBON and the GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON. Upon discharge, he worked for American Visco as a carpenter until his retirement. Although Mr Ritenour was vastly proud of his service to his country and the Brotherhood it forever instills in one toward their fellow soldiers, the war left him an appreciation for life that went beyond men: His son, Randy, once said, ""I remember as a kid when my uncles would slaughter a pig, or beef, my dad would help with the mundane issues of build fires, haul

remains, etc., but would have no hand in ending the animals life"". This affect to personality isn't an un-common offspring from the tragedy of war, yet admirable when talking of a, 'mountain man', raised on the land in hard times which made him hard, himself. Frank is survived by his son, Randy Reese Ritenour of Middletown, Va., a daughter, Shannon Rogers of Stephen City, 3 Grandchildren, and 3 Great Grandchildren. A Memorial Service will follow at a later date. For information, please contact Dellinger Funeral Homes, Inc. 157 N. Main St. Woodstock, Va. 22664 540-459-2199 Email: dfhome@shentel.net

Tribute Wall

GH

“ *My mother Dorothy Clem and I would like to express our sympathy to Frank's family.*

Gail Clem Hansen - May 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DU

“ *Mr. Ritenour, May you rest in peace, It has been great knowing you at Consulate Care, Ethelina, My Mother ,My Step Father and Myself truly enjoyed all of your company over the last 2 years. You were a hero to this area and I have a tremendous amount of respect and honor for all that you have done, may GOD BLESS YOU and We all love you very much!!.....Danny Utley*

Danny Utley - May 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *I have fond memories of Uncle Frank. May he rest in peace. I last saw him about a month ago. He was alert and knew me even after all these years. I loved hearing his "tank" stories from World War II.*

Shirley Ritenour Place - May 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Welcome home Soldier may you now RIP. Thank you for your service and for being a wonderful human being. I wish I could have met you.*

Klieta Bagwell - May 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ *MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.*

Monte Gene Dicks - May 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *My sincere condolences to the Family and Friends of "Frank". Thank you for making my life special on his 100th Birthday. I will never forget it. His face on the event page always gives me a huge smile. Bless you Frank, THANK YOU for your outstanding Service and may you rest peacefully in Heaven? much Love Honor and Respect. Would LOVED to have hugged you !!!*

Kim White - May 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM