



Welsey Steele Trindal

July 21, 1925 - March 16, 2024

The staff at Heishman Funeral Home Inc. sends condolences to the family of Wesley Steele Trindal.

A great American, Wesley Steele Trindal, passed away on the 16th of March 2024 at Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Wesley, "Wes," was born at Superior, Wisconsin on the 21st of July 1925. He was the son of Lt. Col. Glen William Trindal and Mabel Steele. In 1949, he married the love of his life, Mary Elizabeth "Bettie" Steger, who preceded him, passing away in 2013. He is survived by his son, Joseph William; daughter-in-law, Dr. Cassandra Mannhardt; grandchildren, Maria (Wells), Alexander, and Thomas; great-granddaughters, Hannah and Zoey; great nephew, Lyall Steger; and four great nieces, Ann Carr, Martha Livick, Audrey Dreelin, and Catherine Olcott.

Growing up in a family of service, Wes answered America's call during World War II joining the U.S. Army. Earning the Ranger tab, Wes served in the 4th Infantry Division, 22nd Infantry Regiment. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster for action in the Battle of Hürtgen Forest in Germany. His professional passion was in mechanical engineering. Together with his wife, he set off in pursuit of his passion, earning an Engineering degree at Louisiana State University. Defining his life, borne out of his deep faith and strength in conquering post-traumatic stress, was his sense of humor and limitless compassion. He always brought joy to those he

met and reminded us to “find something to laugh at”. In his passing, he wanted us all to know that “this is my 123rd move and my last since my birth in 1925.”

Wes’ graveside service, delivered by Pastor Bruce Kipps, will be held on Wednesday the 27th of March 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Cedarwood Cemetery, 28 South Main Street, Edinburg, Virginia. A celebration of life service will be held on Friday the 5th of April 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Strite Auditorium, Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community, 1401 Virginia Avenue, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

His family requests that memorial contributions be made, in lieu of flowers, in the memory of Wesley S. Trindal to the Warrior PATHH, Boulder Crest Foundation for post-traumatic growth or to the charity of your choice.

His family is comforted that he rests in eternal peace and infinite spiritual health.

Online condolences may be left at www.valleyfs.com

Arrangements by Heishman Funeral Home Inc., Valley Funeral Service Branch, Edinburg.

Cemetery Details

Cedarwood Cemetery

214 S. Main St
Edinburg, VA 22824

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 27. 2:00 PM (ET)

Cedarwood Cemetery
214 S. Main St
Edinburg, VA 22824

Tribute Wall

JT

“ 1 file added to the album *Celebrating Wes Trindal's Life*



Joe Trindal - April 24, 2024 at 07:25 PM

JA

“ *Wes was a fine fellow who was eager to share his knowledge. He authored many articles that were my pleasure to edit and publish. He left his mark on the history of military vehicles.*

I will miss him very much, but honored to have "known" him...if only through our letters.

John A-G - April 03, 2024 at 03:00 PM

JT

John, thank you. Dad loved sharing his experiences, knowledge and insights as much as he loved trucks. Writing and getting published meant a lot to him.

Joe Trindal - April 24, 2024 at 06:33 PM

BE

“ Wes was also an engineer for Ford Motor Company in 1957, who worked on testing the new Edsel automobile. At 96, his mind was sharp and he shared many stories about his experience with our Edsel owner's community. He was a legend with us, giving everyone a rare glimpse into that world as if it were yesterday. Besides his humorous and technical recollections, he also kept and shared original notes and photos. He was an amazing resource, but beyond that he was an amazing person to talk with. We had only been introduced in 2022, but going to miss him tremendously.

Bob Ellsworth - March 27, 2024 at 02:19 PM

JT

Bob, thank you - your fellowship was so important to him. Growing up, he frequently tell me about what an amazing car the Edsel was - "ahead of its time", he'd say. He and mom fondly remembered the air conditioning test trip they took to Arizona and New Mexico in the Edsels. He was part of a team of test engineers who, with their wives tested and enjoyed an Edsel road trip to the southwest . . . in summer. He loved sharing his experiences and we are so blessed that his memory was sharp as a tack throughout his 98 years.

Joe Trindal - April 24, 2024 at 06:40 PM

CN

Joe, I am so sorry we saw this way too late. We got down to visit your dad in early 2024. We was great! Full of his usual humor and wit. We are Tony and Carolyn Neri and your parents came to our home every week in the early 2000s for Bible Study in Woodstock. We loved them and they were so sweet to our children. We built a home in Woodstock in 2004 and we still have daffodils that bloom in our lower front yard that your mom and Elvira Horst planted! What a sweet memory of them every spring!!

tncneri@shentel.net

Carolyn Neri - December 11, 2025 at 09:52 PM