



Edmund "Duke" Downer

September 16, 2010

Edmund "Duke" Downer, Sr., 87, of Upper Pittsgrove passed away on September 16, 2010. Born in Elmer, Duke was the son of Byron R. & Hazel Downer. Mr. Downer graduated from Bridgeton High School in 1940, received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Tufts University and served as the President of Downer Silica Company until retirement. He also served in the U.S. Army during both World War II and Korea.

Over the years, Duke was very involved in both government and community service. He served as a Committeeman in Monroe Township, as a Gloucester County Freeholder, President of the Upper Pittsgrove Republican Club and a municipal leader, Chairman of the Upper Pittsgrove Planning Board and ran for a seat in the New Jersey General Assembly as a Republican Candidate for the Third District. In 1984, he was appointed to the New Jersey Economic Authority. His community service included Director of the Community Mental Health Center for Gloucester County, member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post # 1515, American Legion Post #252, Glassboro Lions Club, Loyal Order of the Moose #2416 in Woodstown, President of the Mallard Meadow Club in Mannington and Treasurer for the Four Sixes Deer Club. In addition, Duke was a member of the Elmer Masonic Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons #160 for over 65 years and the Penns Grove/Elmer Chapter #86 of the

Eastern Star for 60 plus years.

He is survived by his loving wife, Doris (nee: Shimp), his daughters, Judith V. Downer and her husband Joe Bongiovanni of Florida, Sharon Boyer and her husband Scott of Sea Isle, sons, Edmund, Jr. and his wife Gerry of Florida, Alan Harris and his wife Joan of Florida and Creigh Harris of Virginia Beach, grandchildren, Keith and David Miller, Richard and John Bongiovanni, Patrick, Rachel, Erin and Michael Harris and Devon Boyer as well as four great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his brother Walter Downer.

On Monday, September 20, 2010 the family will be available from 9 till 11am to anyone who would like to stop by and pay their respects at the Adams Funeral Home, 111 S. Main St., Elmer, NJ 08318. A Masonic Service will be held at 11am followed by interment at Chestnut Grove Cemetery. The family has requested that donations be made to either Chestnut Grove Cemetery, P.O. Box 88, Elmer, NJ 08318 or the Veterans Memorial Home in Vineland, 524 N. West Blvd., Vineland, NJ 08360. www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Tribute Wall



“ Sorry to hear about Duke's passing.He led a long and admirable life and served our country in the military.

Bob and Georgia Downer, originally of Pitman and Williamstown respectively.##imported-begin##R. Robert Downer##imported-end##

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