



Joseph W. Ayars

April 5, 2012

Joseph W Ayars (affectionately known as pop pop to most) went to our Lord on Thursday, April 5, 2012 after succumbing to natural causes. He bore his death with the same dignity he lived his life. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was born in Bridgeton to Chester Ayars and Anna Reed (both deceased) on March 3, 1922, the second of five children. He is pre-deceased by his brother Raymond and sisters Anne Meade and Beatrice Hemighaus. He is survived by his sister Elsie Linville of Florida.

He saw active duty in Germany in World War II, where he was severely wounded. He was the recipient of a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars for his service. After recovering he returned home and made a life as a guitar player, singer and band leader. Soon after he met his future bride, Blanche Shelmire and they married on July 29, 1949.

Joe spent time as a television repairman and also co-owned a landscaping company, before finally becoming a packer at Wheaton Glass Company where he was well-respected and made several life-long friends. He retired after almost thirty years in 1984. Joe had a wide variety of interests including ham radio, fishing, gardening, and motorcycling.

Joe and Blanche had two children. He is pre-deceased by his daughter Sandra, who returned to the Lord in 1976. His heart always held a special place for his little girl. He is survived by his son, Steven and wife Deborah, of Vineland and their three daughters and families – Beth and Jeff, Juliana, Mia

and Chase Bordley of Vineland; Laura and Forrest and Vaughn Fidler of Salem, Oregon; and Lisa and William Jr., William III (Tré) and Lorilai Velez of Omaha, Nebraska.

Beth remembers pop pop riding all over with his best friend, Gibby, or son on the motorcycle and watching John Wayne movies. Laura will never forget his sense of humor and his wonderful laugh. She also appreciates the time he spent teaching her to play the guitar. Lisa's best memories are doing various yard chores such as sweeping the driveway and cleaning the pool with pop pop. He was always doing things to help everyone around him. They all remember his craftsmanship, especially the enormous three-story Barbie doll house he made for them.

Pop pop leaves these final words of wisdom to his family and friends, "Treat each other as you would want them to treat you."

Friends and family will be received from 9:30 to 11:00 am on Tuesday, April 10th at Adams Funeral Home at 111 S. Main Street, Elmer. Funeral Services will follow immediately followed by internment at the Chestnut Grove Cemetery. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to the charity of your choice. www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Cemetery Details

Chestnut Grove

Elmer, NJ 08318

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 10. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home - South Jersey Cremation Services (Elmer)
111 South Main Street
Elmer, NJ 08318
(856) 358-3737

Service

APR 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

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