



Arthur W. Vincent

February 16, 1925 - July 4, 2021

Arthur "Art" W. Vincent, one of Marion County's last surviving World War II veterans, passed away Sunday, July 4, of natural causes in Fairmont, according to his family.

Growing up in Colfax, Vincent had rarely traveled further than downtown Fairmont by streetcar when he graduated from East Fairmont High School in 1942. After a brief stint supporting the war effort at a ball bearing factory in Connecticut, Vincent was drafted into the Army's Seventh Army, 70th Infantry Division, and sent to the French-German border to help repel the Nazi's in the Battle of the Bulge.

His mission there in January, 1945, was to retake the village of Wingen-sur-Moder, France, house by house, building by building. While storming the town's train station—an objective vital to preventing Germany from sending in fresh troops from Belgium—Vincent was shot by a Nazi sniper. Wounded in the leg, he and his unit were surrounded and trapped overnight until Allied reinforcements could rescue them in the morning.

He would later recall with a smile how he received his Purple Heart shortly thereafter. Recovering in a hospital ward in Paris, the Eiffel Tower visible from his window, each wounded soldiers' medal was simply tossed on their bed. (Vincent would later receive the Legion of Honor from the French government with much more pomp and circumstance at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., some 70 years later.)

Vincent returned to Fairmont, marrying his college sweetheart, Glendine Sue Boyd, in 1952. He graduated from Fairmont State and West Virginia University with bachelor's and master's degrees, respectively, in education and botany. At WVU he studied under the famed botanist Dr. Earl L. Core, completing his masters thesis on mints found in West Virginia.

Vincent then embarked on a career teaching at East Fairmont, Barrackville, and Monongah High Schools, before moving on to sell textbooks for Henry Holt & Company. He travelled the state extensively in his career—Arthur truly never met a stranger. He

retired in the 1980's, but remained an active member of his community and his church, Meadowdale United Methodist H&H Chapel, until the very end. He loved gardening, his flowers, and plants. He lived for his family and was always there for everyone.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, the love of his life, Glendine "Dean" Sue Boyd Vincent; his parents, Virgil E. Vincent and Effie McCord Vincent; a brother, James Vincent and wife Phyllis Vincent; two sisters, Bernice Vincent Brown and Beatrice Vincent Furey; and his granddaughter, Susie A. Vincent Harding.

Vincent is survived by his daughter, Jenni Vincent, and her husband, Ron Springer, of Hedgesville, W.Va.; his son, David Wayne Vincent, of Fairmont; his grandchildren, Alex Springer-Post, of Leesburg, Va., and her husband, James Post, of Hedgesville, W.Va., Andrew Springer of Los Angeles, Ca.; a grandson-in-law, Scott Harding, of Mannington; and great grandsons, Brandon Harding, of Fairmont, and Ty and Jackson Post of Leesburg, Va.

Family and friends are welcome to call at Carpenter and Ford Funeral Home, 209 Merchant St., Fairmont, on Thursday from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. and on Friday, July 9, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. until the time of the funeral service at 2 p.m., at the funeral home, with Pastor Randy Vincent, officiating. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery, with military honors conducted by the Marion County Veterans Council Military Honor Guard and the U.S. Army Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations be made to Meadowdale United Methodist Church Willing Workers, 141 Mt. Harmony Road, Fairmont, W.Va. 26554. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at <http://www.carpenterandford.com>.

Just days ago, planting flowers with family in front of the house he built in Meadowdale shortly after the War, Vincent reminded us, "the ugliest flower is better than no flower at all."

Cemetery

Woodlawn Cemetery

335 Maple Ave

Fairmont, WV, 26554

Events

JUL **Visitation** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

8

Carpenter and Ford Funeral Home

209 Merchant Street, Fairmont, WV, US, 26554

JUL **Visitation** 12:00PM - 02:00PM

9

Carpenter and Ford Funeral Home

209 Merchant Street, Fairmont, WV, US, 26554

JUL **Service** 02:00PM

9

Carpenter and Ford Funeral Home

209 Merchant Street, Fairmont, WV, US, 26554

Comments



“ May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of Arthur W. Vincent, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete.
I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.

My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Army Veteran, Arthur W. Vincent, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - July 08 at 03:46 AM



“ Sorry for your loss. Arthur was a great neighbor. Spent many times talking with him.

Donna Mick - July 07 at 07:29 PM



“ I am deeply saddened to hear about Arthur. I used to wait on him in the bank and I just loved him, he was one of my favorite clients. My deepest condolences to the family.

Mary Beveridge - July 06 at 10:37 PM



“ Heartbreaking loss....I have known Arthur ...practically my entire life...He was certainly one of a kind. Such a kind soul, I have many fond memories of him growing up. I don't think he ever called me by my name...it was always "meschel" and I was ok with that. Sending prayers of comfort to the family during this difficult time.

Michelle Gloyd Hovermale - July 06 at 10:02 PM



“ Arthur was one of kind. A gentleman all the way. The Grafton 30th parade will not be the same just like our church and church choir will not be the same. I know my Fred will be welcoming him in Heaven and and their conversation will take off where they left off the ladt time they saw each other. Rest in peace Arthur, job well done. You will be missed!! Hugs to your family

Connie S Poling - July 06 at 04:57 PM



“ I leave love and prayers for the family. Arthur was a character and I always enjoyed getting to talk to him at church on Sundays at Meadowdale H&H Chapel. It will not be the same without him there, he will be sorely missed.



Jason Schafer - July 06 at 03:46 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time. Marion County Senior Citizens.

Vicki Nichols - July 06 at 01:34 PM