



Obituary

Born: Wednesday, June 3, 1925

Died: Monday, March 30, 2015

William D. (Slug) Thomas, M/Sgt US Army (ret), 89, of Port Carbon, died Monday at Luther Ridge, Pottsville. Born June 3, 1925, in Port Carbon, he was the son of the late Edward and Theresa Nicastrò Thomas. He was preceded in death by his wife, Olive Bensinger Thomas, to whom he was married for twenty-three years.

As a teenager, he served in the Civilian Conservation Corps in Maryland, Virginia and Montana. During WWII he served in the South Pacific, receiving the Good Conduct Medal, Asia-Pacific Medal with One Bronze Star, and WWII Victory Medal. During the Korean War he received the Korean Service Medal with One Silver Star and Two Bronze Stars, U.N. Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, and U.S. Presidential Unit Citation. His unit is one of twelve active duty units with its own distinctive unit crest. His company received the Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal for its action in Korea, the Presidential Unit Citation, Navy, for the company's support of Marine and Naval units during the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir, Korea.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by his companion Virginia Wesner, brothers Robert Thomas and Daniel Strausser, his sister Geraldine (Gerry) Hughes, and son-in-law Martin Boylan. Surviving are sons William, Philadelphia; George, Port Carbon, and partner Dr. Kon Sze Kee, Singapore; daughter Rene Boylan and partner Leon Blake, Pottsville; grandson Brian Boylan, Port Carbon; brother Charles (Buzzy) and wife Sandy Thomas, Middleport; sisters Regina Piccioni, Pottsville, and Shirley McGuire, Port Carbon; and nephews and nieces.

He was a member of Pulaski Lodge #216, Royal Arch Chapter #196, Constantine Commandery #41, Valley of Reading Schuylkill County Club, Rajah Shriners, Schuylkill Shrine Club, Legion of Honor Tall Cedars of Lebanon #50.

Relatives and friends are invited to a viewing from 6:00-8:00 p.m., Thursday, at the Robert A. Evans, Jr. Funeral Home, 208 Pike Street, Port Carbon. Interment will be held on Friday at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery at 11 a.m., Port Carbon.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Port Carbon Library, 111 Pike Street, Port Carbon, PA.

Please send condolences to www.robortaejvnsjrfh.com

Service Summary

Visitation

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Thu Apr 02, 2015

Robert A. Evans Jr. Funeral Home

208 Pike Street

Port Carbon, PA 17965