



Virgil L. Austin

April 24, 1922 - January 30, 2012

Virgil was born April 24, 1922 in Brainerd, MN to the late Albert and Vira (Mincer) Austin. He grew up in Brainerd and graduated from Brainerd High School in 1940. He then attended Brainerd Junior College before enlisting in the US Navy V-5 program in 1942. He became a Naval Aviator, serving as a flight instructor in Kinsville, TX until being called to duty as a fighter pilot. Virgil was united in marriage to Betty M. Christenson in June, 1944 in Pensacola, FL. He served as an officer with Air Group 13 until his honorable discharge on Nov. 19, 1945.

Following his discharge, Virg returned to Brainerd and was employed as a foreman/supervisor for the C. L. Nelson Company, a highway construction firm. In 1956, he joined George Johnson and George Merrick in the formation of Office Supply Inc. of Little Falls. Over the years, Virg and Betty became sole owners until selling the business in 1989.

During his years in Little Falls, Virg was active in many community programs. He was a charter member of Exchange Club, served in all local offices of the Club, served as District Director and was selected for the Minnesota Exchangite Extraordinary award. He was Cub Master of Pack 44; was President of the Little Falls Chamber of Commerce; a Director of the Little Falls Development Corporation; Director and Treasurer of Sno Dogs Snowmobile Club and Director of St. Cloud Technical College Business Machines Department. Virg was also actively involved in the creation of the local United Way; Ducks Unlimited; Little Falls Arts and Crafts Fair and the

American Field Service program.

Virg was very active in the First Congregational Church, serving as deacon, trustee and treasurer for many years. He was chairman of the committee that formed First United Church and served as treasurer and other positions in the church. He was a life member of both Little Falls American Legion Post #46 and Little Falls VFW Post #1112 as well as a member of the Masonic Lodge. Virgil enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling, traveling, attending high school athletic events and flying. He also restored a Model T, a classic Mustang and helped restore the Lindberg car. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time at the family cabin on Pelican Lake.

Virgil Austin is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Betty; sons, Richard (Chriss) of Morro Bay, CA; John (Elizabeth) of Clearwater, MN; Robert (Betsy) of Fort Collins, CO and Thomas (Jana) of Houston, TX; brother, Donald of Phoenix, AZ and 5 grandchildren. Virgil was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Vira Austin.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 3. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Church
1000 SE 1st Street
Little Falls, MN

Service

FEB 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Church
1000 SE 1st Street
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Virgil L. Austin*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Dear Betty and family, Elene called me to let me know that Virg had passed away. I am sorry for your loss and for the sadness you are all feeling at this time. God be with you all. Arnelle*

*May the breeze whisper that life never ends, only that it is changed-
-that it continues forever in a world more beautiful than our words
can describe.##imported-begin##Arnelle Combs##imported-end##*

February 02, 2012 at 08:13 PM



“ *Betty and family,
I am sad to hear of Virg's passing. I have many fond memories of
his smiling face and kindness. He was always so nice to us kids
when we would visit Tom. He was blessed to have all of you. Your
family will always hold a special place in my heart. May your
memories of Virgil bring you much comfort and peace in the days
ahead.##imported-begin##Sheryce (Gustafson) Cook##imported-
end##*

February 02, 2012 at 08:40 AM



“ *I'm definitely going to miss you Virg. The lake won't be the same
without you. Love you.##imported-begin##Casey Moen##imported-
end##*

February 01, 2012 at 10:29 PM



“ Enjoy you family and the time you have together.##imported-begin##Becky Reeves##imported-end##

February 01, 2012 at 12:19 PM



“ Betty and family, My deepest sympathy to all of you.. I was saddened to hear of Virg's passing, my prayers are with you at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Shirley M Ploof##imported-end##

February 01, 2012 at 11:08 AM



“ Betty, Rick, John, Rob & Tom,

I have such wonderful memories of your mom and dad. How they loved those card games. Whether at the lake or in Otho, it never took long once a meal was done to pull out the cards.

Please know I am thinking of you and wish I could be there.

With sincere condolences, Sandy##imported-begin##Sandy (Lunn) Jorgensen##imported-end##

February 01, 2012 at 09:21 AM



“ Betty and family,
We are saddened to hear of Virg's passing. We will be unable to visit you during this time, but please know that our hearts and prayers are with you. We say, "Aloha, a hui ho, Virg" (So long, until we meet again)##imported-begin##Ray & Dianna Schulte##imported-end##

January 31, 2012 at 10:54 PM