



Byrd Austin

February 10, 1918 - April 19, 2013

Byrd "Pappaw" Austin of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma departed this life on Friday, April 19, 2013 at the Oklahoma Veteran's Center in Ardmore, Oklahoma at the age of 95. Byrd was born on February 10, 1918 in Wynnewood, Oklahoma to Alva Allen Austin and Cornelia (Stockton) Austin. He married Helen Selzer on December 29, 1945.

Byrd served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II in the 45th Infantry Division participating in campaigns in Rome, Rhineland, Central Europe, Sicily, Naples and Southern France on D-Day. He also was a part of liberating Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany. Byrd was awarded the Purple Heart, The Good Conduct Medal, the EAME Service Ribbon, One Silver Service Star, One Bronze Service Star, One Bronze Arrowhead and the American Defense Service Ribbon.

Being a very patriotic man, Byrd remained an active member in the 45th Infantry Division Association. He was retired from civil service as a fuel mechanic at Tinker Air Force Base. After retiring from Tinker, he worked for Commercial Distributors Inc. (CDI) for eighteen years. He was a member of the Methodist Church in Alex, Oklahoma and a member of the Alex Masonic Lodge. Byrd enjoyed golfing, dancing, snow skiing and fishing. He loved meeting people and spoiling his grandchildren.

Mr. Austin is survived by his daughter, Alvita Taylor and husband Wes of Madill, OK, two sons: Larry Austin and wife Patty of Madill, OK and Garry Austin and wife Darla of Wichita Falls, TX, one sister, Mary of Roswell New Mexico and his grandchildren: Cindy Wagner and husband John of Oklahoma City, OK, Terrell Taylor of Wetumka, OK, Cristy Martin and husband Shawn of Baxter Spring, KS, Deatra Smith and husband Chuck of Wichita Falls, TX, Scott Austin and wife Beth of Yukon, OK, Sam Austin and wife Julee of Wichita Falls, TX, Chad Taylor and wife Loni of Madill, OK and Dawn Vatalaro of Carrollton, TX. Also remaining behind are Byrd's great-grandchildren: Allyson and Hannah Wagner, B.J. and wife Amber, Brittney and Blake Burns, Garrison, Mitchell and Story Smith, Cole, Cloe and Emily Austin, Ella and Owen Austin, Carter Vatalaro and Joel and Jenna Martin as well as one great-great-grandson, Liam Burns.

Byrd was preceded in death by his wife Helen Austin on September 8, 2007. Also passing before him was one daughter, Freda Ann Beene, his parents, Alva and Cornelia Austin, one brother Walter and three sisters: Pauline, Nellie and Billie Jean.

Funeral services for Mr. Austin are set for ten o'clock a.m. on Monday, April 22, 2013 at the B.G. Boydston Funeral Home Chapel, located at 308 S.W. 3rd Street in Lindsay, Oklahoma with Brandon Johnson officiating. Interment will follow at Bradley Cemetery in Bradley, Oklahoma. There will be military honors by the Oklahoma Army National Guard Honor Guard as well as honors by the Patriot Guard Riders of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Masons. Services are under the direction of B.G. Boydston Funeral Home of Oklahoma. Condolences for the family may be made online at www.boydstonfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

DC

“ Garry, Darla & family
Our thoughts & prayers are with you!
Love you guys!

David & Amy Cox - April 21, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Larry, Garry, Alvita and families, so sorry to hear about your father's passing. I will be thinking of you in the days ahead. God bless you.

Sharon Nye Russell - April 21, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ We salute your veteran. Our condolences for your loss & gratitude for your loved one's service to our country. May your memories & God's love bring you peace, comfort & strength at this difficult time.

Larry & Lana Hurt (Patriot Guard Riders) - April 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM