



Milton V. Roth

January 15, 2014

Milton V. Roth, 87, of Woodinville, Washington, died Wednesday, January 15, 2014, at the Evergreen Hospice Center in Kirkland, Washington. He was born July 18, 1926, in Wittenberg, Missouri, son of Victor and Dora (nee Dorothea Kasten) Roth. He married Billie (nee Bertha Norris) of Marion, North Carolina, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, on May 11, 1946. Milton is survived by his wife, Billie; his daughters, Carol and Rebecca (Becky) Roth of Woodinville, Washington, Vicky Hardy of Issaquah, Washington and Ellen (Don) Ladwig of St. Charles, Missouri; his grandchildren, Leslie Tucker of Eureka, Missouri, Laura (Kevin) Sokoloski of Burien, Washington, Amy (Hans) Hentschel of Lawrenceville, Georgia, and Christopher Hardy of San Francisco, California; and his great-grandchildren, Jacob Tucker, David and Ryan Sokoloski and Aidan and Grace Hentschel. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Richard Roth, of Frohna, Missouri, his sister, Verna Maevers, of Egypt Mills, Missouri, and his sister, Norma Chapman, of Jackson, Missouri. Milton was only 17 when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1943 during the height of World War II. He survived boot camp at Farragut, Idaho, and was sent to Iowa State A&M College in Ames, Iowa, for training on the theory, design and operation of diesel engines. He was then sent to Chicago, Illinois, for advanced training on installation of diesel engines, followed by additional training in Beloit, Wisconsin, on diesel engines for the Navy's amphibious assault ships, the LSM's (Landing Ships, Medium). Following training on installation of LSM's diesel engines at Little Creek, Virginia, Milton was

assigned to the engine crew of USS LSM-264, which was being built in nearby Kerney Shipyard in Newark, New Jersey. Following commissioning in New York Harbor in 1944, the LSM-264 and its crew soon found themselves in the midst of one of the greatest sea and land battles of World War II . . . the battle of Iwo Jima. One of the most famous pictures of the battle of Iwo Jima shows the USS LSM-264 on the beachhead at Iwo Jima while the Marines burrow in the sand despite the heavy rain of artillery fire from the enemy. Although damaged by enemy fire, the LSM-264 and its crew survived the deadly Iwo Jimo campaign. After the end of World War II, the LSM-264 was sent to Lake Charles, Louisiana, for decommissioning. Around this time, Milton met and married Billie. After the USS LSM-264 was decommissioned, Milton was assigned to the engine crew of a U.S. Navy salvage tug operating out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where he remained until he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy on July 20, 1947 as a Motor Machinist Mate First Class. Milton was employed in 1948 by the Missouri Utilities Company to operate and maintain an emergency and peakload electrical power plant in Charleston, Missouri. This job and his Navy experience with diesel engines eventually landed him a position in 1952 as a diesel engineer on towboats on the inland waterways. He was hired in 1966 by Missouri Barge Line of Cape Girardeau to be one of their chief engineers. He eventually advanced to be their port engineer in 1975 and remained so until his retirement in 1990. Milton was licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard as both a chief engineer and a towboat operator and the Missouri Barge Line named one of their towboats the "Milton V. Roth" after he had supervised its extensive refurbishing. Following his retirement from Missouri Barge Line, Milton, Billie and Becky traveled extensively within the U.S., primarily by car. They visited almost every National Park and Monument and almost every state (except those in the Northeast). In 2002, they moved to live with their daughter, Carol, in Woodinville, Washington. When he wasn't traveling, Milton enjoyed gardening and fishing, particularly when the catfish were biting. He and Billie spent many a summer morning on the Elk's Lake in Cape Girardeau reeling in one big

catfish after another. After moving to Washington, Milton continued to enjoy gardening and sitting out on the deck or on the bench under the giant cedar tree in the backyard to watch the local wildlife (deer, bears, cougars, raccoons, and the occasional skunk) wander through. He also became quite a model train aficionado, creating an entire landscape in one bay of the garage, complete with towns, farms, rivers, mountains, beaches and rail yards. He also enjoyed watching the silly antics of the family cat, Kicia. Milton was a member of the Elk's Lodge, a lifetime member of VFW Post 3838 and a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Cape . He became a member of the Wooden Cross Lutheran Church in Woodinville, Washington in 2002. A Celebration of Milton's Life will be held at his home in Woodinville, Washington, on February 22, 2014. In lieu of flowers, Milton specifically requested that donations be sent to Homeward Pet Adoption Center in Woodinville, Washington.

Tribute Wall

VC

“ Vicky, Was so sorry to read of your sweet father's passing in the *Missourian*. I have such early memories in my childhood of his story telling and smile. Please give your mom and sisters my deepest condolences. No matter the age, it's so hard to lose a beloved Dad. Love and prayers, Tori Ann

Vikki Holt Courvoisier - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ So sorry for your loss Billie. Hope you and the girls are doing well.

Paul & Madeline Ruehling - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I am sorry to hear about Uncle Milton. Praying for all of you and especially you Becky. Losing your daddy is not easy. Love you!

Jeri Palmer - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Dear Billie and family - Wanted to let you know how sad I was to hear of the death of Milton. My children and I remember both of you with great affection and love. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time - With love, Barbara

Barbara Burlison - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I really enjoyed the time I spent with Billie Milton and Becky. I will be praying for peace and comfort for the entire family

Lee Trankler - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Carol, I am sorry for the loss of your father. I have such fond memories of your mom and dad from our May Greene days. Please give your mom and sisters my regards and sympathy.

Robyn Slinkard Morton - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Carol, Sorry to hear of your loss. He was a good man. I still remember some of the quick little talks he had with me while I was dating you in High School. Glad you could bring them out to your home in WA. to spend some quality time with them. Again sorry for your loss.

TimKelley - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Billie and family, Sorry to hear of Milton's death. He was a fine gentleman. Take Care, Shirley

Shirley Seabaugh - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ What great memories I have of our families together.....praying your memories will help comfort you in this time of sorrow. Much love, Phyllis

Phyllis Lipscomb Pickard - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ May thoughts and loving memories bring you comfort in the loss of one so dear. Please know that you continue to be in our prayers. May God continue to surround you with His peace. We will never forget the wonderful times we shared being neighbors.

Carol & Max Pind - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Milton, Billie, and Becky Fond memories of this wonderful family! Milton will certainly be missed. Dr.J

Dr. Dwight Johnson - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. Milton was always ready to stop and talk about the river when we were together. We are still living on the family farm near Wittenberg and I'm still working on the river. I know he will be missed by many. Again you have our deepest sympathy at your loss.

Capt. Dale Roth,Lindy,Alex and Anna Roth - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Billie, Carol and Becky, Your family were some of the first people we met when we moved to Cape Girardeau many years ago and you were wonderful friends and neighbors on Lynnwood to the Murphy family. Your dad always had such a sweet smile and was so kind to help me get my first job at Missouri Dry Dock. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Janet Murphy Esicar - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Sincere sympathy to Billie and all the family. My heart is with you - Milton is now with his Lord Jesus. May that same Lord Jesus comfort all of you. Love, Carole

Carole Stotler - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Billie and Milton Roth played a huge part in our lives when we first came to Cape and Warren Hearnnes was running for Governor. The Hearnnes--Cooper--Stacy family values you dearly and we all send our sympathy.*

Jane Cooper Stacy - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM