



Obituary

Born: Sunday, November 25, 1928

Died: Sunday, July 7, 2019

Orion Lewis Birdsall Jr.

Orion Lewis Birdsall Jr., 90, of Palmyra, passed away on Sunday, July 7, 2019 at Albemarle Health & Rehabilitation Center in Charlottesville.

He was born on November 25, 1928, in Dinwiddie County, a son of the late Orion Lewis and Sarah Pauline (Hawkes) Birdsall. He was raised on a farm. As anyone who knew him can tell you, he loved his family. He shared his stories of growing up on a farm that kept both friends and family entertained. The day before he was taken to his final glory, he shared a story with his grandson, Dylan.

Orion was a 1950 graduate of Virginia Tech and later obtained his Master's Degree from Catholic University. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel during the Korean War. After his active duty, he worked for the Federal Government and retired as Director of Training for the Internal Revenue Service after 26 years of service. While working for the IRS, he championed women's right and the rights of minorities. Upon retiring, he became a consultant and traveled internationally teaching Instructional Design all over the world, returning to his beloved Egypt, where he taught 9 times. He was a member of Palmyra United Methodist Church and enjoyed volunteering and serving the community.

Survivors include his loving wife of 17 years: Peggy W. Birdsall of Palmyra; his children: Jim Birdsall and wife, Julie of North, Virginia, Robert Birdsall of Gloucester, Virginia, and Anna Birdsall Prieto and husband, Terry of Herndon, Virginia; his step-sons: Chris White and wife, Bernadette of Dearborn Heights, Michigan and T. J. White and wife, Stefanie of Leesburg, Virginia; his sister: Nancy Bain of Dinwiddie; 9 grandchildren: Susan, Carl, James, Dylan, Valentina, Ella, Max, Zack, and Rebekah; 3 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and other extended family members and friends.

Service Summary

Memorial Service

12:30 PM Sat Jul 13, 2019

Palmyra United Methodist Church

258 Palmyra Way
Palmyra, VA 22963

His daily prayer was “Lord, let me not be a trouble to your people”. He was truly a great, gracious, humble and kind man. He has been God’s good and faithful servant.

A memorial service will be conducted at 12:30 pm on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at Palmyra United Methodist Church by Pastor George Gorman. Interment will be private. The family will receive friends following the service at a reception in the church fellowship hall. All are welcome to attend.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Orion's name may be made to the Palmyra United Methodist Church: PO Box 151, Palmyra, VA 22963; or to the Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire and Rescue: 10 Slice Road, Palmyra, VA 22963.

Thacker Brothers Lake Monticello Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Family and friends may share memories and photos online at www.thackerbrothers.com.