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Obituary: Albert Gray Mitchell Jr.

Wednesday, April 29, 2009



Albert Gray Mitchell Jr.

Albert Gray Mitchell Jr. succumbed to cancer April 24, 2009, in Prescott, Ariz., at age 86. He enjoyed full independence and mobility up to the last week of his 86 years. He was born in the home of his grandfather (Francis Norris, Baltimore Sun Credit Manager) at 3811 Hamilton Ave., Baltimore, Md., on March 18, 1923.

He was raised in Baltimore and Salisbury, Md., attended Walston Switch School and graduated from Wicomico High School in 1940. He earned his engineering degree at Johns Hopkins in 1943 on an Army ROTC scholarship. In WWII, Lt. Mitchell joined the 30th Division, 119th Regiment, immediately following the Battle of Mortain. He fought across France until he was wounded at Pontoise near Paris and air-evacuated to the 119th army hospital in Blandford, England. While recovering from his wounds, he met his future wife, an American Army nurse, Helen Northrop. He returned to the front during the Battle of the Bulge and fought across the Rhine into Germany before illness diverted him to a French hospital. After recovering from his illness, he rejoined the 30th division in Magdeberg, Germany. After VE Day he returned to England and married Helen Clark Northrop on June 12, 1945. "Lennie" passed away in 2003 after 58 years of marriage.

Albert worked with Western Electric, Honeywell and Singer's Control Corporation. He was promoted to the Honeywell home office before being recruited to Singer's Control Company as a corporate vice president. He retired to enjoy years of golf, travel

and community service through Rotary. He deeply loved his family, lived life abundantly and thoroughly enjoyed many friends.

He is survived by two sons, John Charles Mitchell of Calpine, Calif., and Alan Francis Mitchell of Berrien Springs, Mich.; six grandchildren, David (Melody), Donna (Caleb) Dorsey, Karen (John) Barone, Steven (Rebekah), Diane and Eric; and five great-grandchildren, Emma, Samuel, Madeline, Rose and Ginger.

Memorial services and a brief reception will be at 10 a.m. May 4, 2009, in the American Evangelical Lutheran Church in Prescott. Inurnment will be at the Prescott Veterans Cemetery at 2 p.m. with military honors.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in his name to the American Cancer Society, 2724 E. Lakin, Suite 9, Flagstaff, AZ 86004. Donations may be made online (www.cancer.org) or by phone at 1-800-227-2345.

Services were entrusted to Hampton Funeral Home.

Information provided by survivors.

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