



Albert "Bruce" Chestnut

September 25, 1928 - January 12, 2018

Albert B. (Bruce) Chestnut passed away peacefully on January 12, 2018 at the age of 92 at his home in Murrells Inlet, SC. He was born in Conway, SC on September 25, 1925, the son of the late W.B. and Grace Chestnut. Bruce leaves behind his devoted wife of 70 years, Louise Allen Chestnut, also of Conway; their four children: Judie Edwards (Lee), Cookie Millwood (Danny), Buddy Chestnut and Sonny Chestnut (Janice); four grandchildren: Craig Chestnut (Ashley), Leigh Millwood, Matthew Millwood and Lewis Chestnut; one great grandson: Gavin Chestnut; a sister, Beulah Marvin (John), of Greensboro, NC and a host of loving nieces and nephews.

Bruce graduated from Conway High School in 1944 at the age of 18 but because he was being inducted into the Army at the time, his dad accepted his diploma for him on graduation day. Bruce had decided to serve his country as a paratrooper and he earned his wings at Ft. Benning, GA. Subsequently, he was assigned to the 517th Combat Infantry Team. Bruce participated in three European campaigns: the Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge), Central Europe and the Rhinlands. His actions in combat earned him the Combat Infantry Badge and the Bronze Star. Bruce left the Army in 1946 and returned to Conway. He married his sweetheart, Louise, at the Conway First Baptist Church on January 3, 1948. He joined the SC National Guard where he served for 14 years. In 1961, while participating in National Guard training at Ft. Stewart, GA, Bruce received a telegram from the Department of Defense

requesting his return to active duty at the rank of Captain. Bruce would spend the next 13 years of his life actively and honorably serving his country with assignments to Ft. Hood, TX, Ft. Jackson, SC, Ft. Monroe, VA, Ft. Knox, KY, the Defense Language Institute at Ft. Ord, CA, Command and Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth and two separate 12-month tours to Vietnam where he earned the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm and Vietnam Parachute Wings.

Bruce and Louise enjoyed an active and happy retirement in Murrells Inlet. As a member of Garden City Baptist Church, he served as a deacon and member of the church choir. Always the adventurer, Bruce had his private pilot's license and enjoyed flying over the low country. He took soaring lessons when he was 73 years old, and also enjoyed riding his bright red Vespa scooter. Bruce was a member and one-term President of the Horry County Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. He designed the logo that is currently displayed on their monthly publications. He also served one term as President of the Horry County Historical Society. He and Louise were members of the Myrtle Beach Power Squadron and enjoyed boating trips on the Waccamaw. For years, Bruce and Louise were instrumental in jointly supporting the efforts of a group of Belgian citizens eager to pay homage to World War II American soldiers of the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment who liberated Trois Ponts from German occupation. Monuments were constructed at the site of eight battlefields, commemorating the mutual experiences that united our two countries. For several years, Bruce and Louise enjoyed an enduring friendship with the people of Trois Ponts.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2PM on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Garden City Baptist Church. The family will receive friends one hour prior to service. Memorial Donations maybe made to Garden City Baptist church or to Tideland hospice.

An online guestbook is available at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

WU

“ Thanks for your service Soldier and Fellow Vietnam Vet !!!
Wayne Williams
United States Marine Corps



Wayne Williams - USMC - January 19, 2018 at 10:19 AM

FS

Bruce chestnut

frank swygert - January 31, 2025 at 02:10 PM

FS

Bruce Chestnut

frank swygert - January 31, 2025 at 02:11 PM

CC

“ Judy,
I'm so sorry about your dad. I have fond memories of him and your mom in Conway. I will keep ou and your family in my prayers in the coming days.
Carol Foxworth Chestnut

Carol Chestnut - January 18, 2018 at 10:12 PM

WA

“ *Soldiers are dreamers; when the guns begin they think of firelit homes, clean beds, and wives. –Siegfried Sassoon*
I’m not certain that our paths crossed in Vietnam but I’m grateful for your sacrifice and professionalism. I met many a senior officer that I was proud to call comrade. I’m certain you would have been standing amongst them.
May God bless you Colonel. Rest In Peace. W.M. Evans Captain US Army

W. M. Evans, Captain US Army - January 13, 2018 at 08:30 PM

JA

“ *You are in our prayers, we have many wonderful memories of time spent with th two of you. We are sorry for your loss, was a good friend.**Joe and Dottie Andersen in Wilson,NC*

Joe and Dottie Andersen - January 12, 2018 at 05:55 PM

GK

“ *Bruce and Louise were members of what we called a dinner club of 5 couples, great times. Once Dennis Smith was asking me if I wanted to go fishing the next day at 5:30, I said I couldn’t but Bruce said he would like to go. I said Bruce you know Dennis means 5:30am, Bruce no I can’t go as we all know Bruce was not a morning person.*

Gene King - January 12, 2018 at 04:59 PM

RA

Bruce always loved my Christmas cookies I would take him and Louise. He will be missed. I am so sorry Louise I know you will miss him very much.

Rhonda Ammons - January 12, 2018 at 05:21 PM



Our prayers are with you during time., Cherish the memories. Johnny and Linda Mcdowell

Linda Mcdowell - January 13, 2018 at 08:38 AM