



Archie Dargan, Jr.

October 16, 1924 - July 30, 2011

Archie Shaw Dargan, Jr., 86, died July 30, 2011, at his home in Myrtle Beach. A native of Darlington County, SC, he was the son of the late Archie S. Dargan, Sr. and Edith Austin Dargan. He was a 1949 graduate of Clemson University with a B. S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He founded Dargan Construction Company of Myrtle Beach in 1953, and the company remains in business today as a successful building contractor. His hobbies were Clemson football games, golf and aviation and he was an instrument-rated pilot. He was preceded in death by his wife, Caroline Douglas Sligh Dargan, his parents, one infant grandson, and daughter-in-law, Joyce Chestnut Dargan. Mr. Dargan was an investor and a member of the Boards of Directors of Myrtle Beach National Company; Coastal Crane Service; Caravelle Resort; Longwood Golf Corporation (Blackmour); Alabama Theatre; Construction Equipment Rental Company; Ice House Group; and Hillsborough Land Group, LLC. He served on many Boards of Directors in the past, some of those being C&S National Bank (now Bank of America); General Telephone Company (now Frontier); Carolinas Branch, The Associated General Contractors of America; Horry County Development Board; Greater Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce; Chairman, Board of Trustees Ocean View Memorial Hospital Foundation; Trustee, SC Foundation of Independent Colleges; Board of Visitors, Coastal Carolina College School of Business; Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors, Coker College; Board of Visitors, Columbia College, President, Carolinas Golf Association; President, Rotary Club of Myrtle Beach;

President, United Way of Horry County; Vice President, Pee Dee Area Council of Boy Scouts of America; Horry County District Chairman, and Horry County District Finance Chairman.

He was very involved in civic organizations that helped the community and the world. Because of his service, he received the Silver Beaver Award, Boy Scouts of America, Pee Dee Area Council; Citizen of the Year for Myrtle Beach, SC; Rotarian of the Year for Myrtle Beach Rotary Club; Service to Mankind Award, Myrtle Beach Sertoma Club; Community Award of Merit, Coastal Carolina College, USC.

Mr. Dargan graduated St. John's High School, Darlington, SC, and was a student at Clemson University in 1943 when he left school to join the military. Mr. Dargan's military service was outstanding. He served in the Army Air Corps, 1943-1945. After pilot training in the States, he was sent overseas in 1944 to fight in World War II and was assigned to the European Theatre of Operation as a fighter pilot, flying a P-51 Mustang. He flew 37 missions and shot down four enemy fighters. He earned the rank of First Lieutenant and returned home in 1945. In 1946, he returned to complete his college education at Clemson University. After working five years in the engineering department of a large textile firm, he decided to move to Myrtle Beach and founded Dargan Construction Company in 1953. The company is still operating strong in Myrtle Beach.

He held professional licenses as follows: General Contractor License "Building-Unlimited" SC Licensing Board for Contractors; General Contractor License "Building-Unlimited" NC Licensing Board for Contractors; Professional Engineer - SC State Board of Engineers Examiners.

His company built many of the hotels and condominiums in Myrtle Beach, and also the entertainment theatres, such as Carolina Opry, Dixie Stampede, Ronnie Milsap Theatre, Gatlin Brothers Theatre, and others were built by his company. Numerous buildings at Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Coastal Carolina University, Francis Marion College, Voorhees College, Newberry College and many elementary and high school buildings were built.

Many hospitals, too, were built by the company; some of them being Orangeburg Hospital, Georgetown Hospital, Self Memorial Hospital, Palmetto State Hospital in Columbia, New Haven Nursing Home, Myrtle Beach Manor Nursing Home, and many others.

Mr. Dargan was a man of faith and was a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Myrtle Beach, where he served as an Elder. He also served on various committees, including the current building committee for the new church sanctuary.

Mr. Dargan is survived by five children: Archie Shaw Dargan, III (Linda); Waldeck Sligh Dargan; Caroline Douglas MacKorell (John, Sr.); Louisa Sligh Dargan Harris (Trey); Melissa Dorsey Dargan Hufhand (Brian). He is survived by 13 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. He is also survived by one brother, George Dargan of Darlington.

He always believed that a person should give back to the community. He did this far and above what was expected. His generosity supported colleges, universities, and churches. He will be remembered as a kind man to all and above all, a Southern Gentleman.

Visitation for Mr. Dargan will be held on Sunday, July 31, 2011, at his home in the Dunes Cove Section of Myrtle Beach, SC, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Dargan's funeral will be held on Monday, August 1, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Myrtle Beach, SC, directed by Goldfinch Funeral Home of Conway, SC. Burial will follow in Grove Hill Cemetery, Darlington, SC, at approximately 5:00 p.m., directed by Belk Funeral Home of Darlington, SC.

For anyone desiring to send a memorial, please send it to Grand Strand Humane Society, or the YMCA of Myrtle Beach, or the First Presbyterian Church of Myrtle Beach, SC.

An online guestbook may be signed at www.goldfinchfuneral.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

(Photo to be emailed)

Cemetery Details

Grove Hill Cemetery

Darlington, SC

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 31. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Residence

Service

AUG 1. 2:00 PM.

First Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Beach

Tribute Wall

CW

“ Dear Shaw, Deck, Dougie, Louisa and Melissa, Mother and I were so deeply sorry not to be able to come to Uncle Archie's service and reception in Darlington. All of us were scattered except Keith. It was so comforting to me to know that he got to the service and spoke to all of you. Please know that we are all thinking of all of you and are keeping you in our hearts and prayers. We are so grateful for all the wonderful memories we have of your parents and for the beautiful example they set for all of us. I hope that I will be able to see you all before too long. Much Love from Keith, Caroline, James, Charles and " Aunt Caroline ”



Caroline James Williamson - August 17, 2011 at 06:59 PM

MR

“ Douglas and family my deepest sympathy to you all. Your mama and daddy were wonderful and loving people. I just know that my parents and your parents are throwing one big party in heaven. Much love to you all and many blessings sent your way for strength. May God put his arms around you all and help you with your grief.

Maggie Ruffin---Murrells Inlet

Maggie Ruffin - August 03, 2011 at 11:38 AM

AS

“ Archie and I spent a lot of quality time together, and also with my family. He will be dearly missed by all of us.

Augie Swarat

August Swarat - August 02, 2011 at 09:06 AM

RL

“ The faculty, Students, staff and myself express our sympathies in the passing of Archie. Archie was a consistent and dedicated supporter of Clemson University Department of Construction Science and Management. His time and other contributions helped insure a quality education for our students over the years. His spirit will live on in our program and he will never be forgotten as a champion for construction education. He wil be missed!

*Roger W. Liska, Chair and Professor
Clemson University
Construction Science and Management Department*

Roger Liska - August 01, 2011 at 03:12 PM

LL

“ My deepest sympathy to all of the Dargan family. My Step Dad Thurman King was employeed with Dargan Const. Co. for over thirty years. He always spoke very highly of your dad. I remember Mr. Dargan coming into board meetings at Waccamaw Clay Products. He always had time to stop and speak and ask "how are things" Lamar and of course showing that big smile. He was truly a southern gentleman. The contracting and building industry has lost a giant. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this trying time.
Lamar Lewis,
Waccamaw Brick Co.

Lamar Lewis - August 01, 2011 at 12:32 PM

KS

“ *Louisa, My deepest sympathy to you and your family. John 3:16!*



Kathy Saunders

Kathy Saunders - July 31, 2011 at 09:24 PM

KS

“ *Louisa, I am thinking of you and your family. Your father was a wonderful man! He always had a big smile for us at the Martinique! He will be missed by Myrtle Beach. Remembering you and your family in my prayers....*



Katherine C Saunders

Kathy Saunders - July 31, 2011 at 09:18 PM

MN

“ *I only had the honor of meeting Mr Dargan briefly but I was well aware of his character and am saddened at his passing. They don't make them like that anymore, his kind built America. My condolence to the family.*

Mike Nabors - July 31, 2011 at 06:45 PM

JJ

“ *Such a fine man and friend of our family. My dad always thought of Archie as a true friend as well as a dedicated customer. They shared many wonderful times on the golf course and certainly "owned the Dunes member guest" in their days of teaming up. Our family wants to let the Dargan family know that our thoughts and prayers are with them.*

Jesse Basnight Jr. - July 31, 2011 at 03:51 PM