



George R. Anderson

June 5, 1925 - May 6, 2017

George R. Anderson, 91, of Siesta Key, Florida, passed away in his home on May 6 after a lengthy struggle with acute myeloid leukemia.

He was born in DeKalb, Illinois on June 5, 1925, and grew up in DeKalb, Sycamore and Chicago.

He attended DeKalb Township High School, where he played guard on the famed DeKalb Barbs football champions of the early '40s. After serving in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946, he returned to DeKalb, where he lived until his retirement in 1986.

George married Anna Maria Donnini of Florence, Italy, in DeKalb on November 29, 1954. They had one son, Mark, who was born in DeKalb in 1958.

Always great with his hands, George worked at various jobs, including as a tradesman in the home building industry, on the factory floor at Anaconda, as a piano regulator in the Wurlitzer factory, and finally as a stationary engineer at Northern Illinois University from 1963 to his retirement.

Upon retirement, George and Anna moved to Siesta Key, where they made their home for over 30 years.

George was a proud combat veteran of World War II, having served as a cannoneer in the Army's Field Artillery. He saw action in New Guinea and the Philippines, took part in the post-war occupation of Japan, and was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Battle Stars. In 2014, he published a memoir of his wartime experiences, *Army Life 1943-1946: A Cannoneer's Memoir of Combat in the Pacific*.

George was preceded in death by his mother, the former Mary Twomey, his father, Vern Anderson, his brother, Edward (Lucy) Anderson, and his two sisters, Marie (Art) Whyte and Jean (Gene) Adee.

He is survived by Anna M. Anderson, his wife of 62 years, his son Mark (Mary Fontaine), and two grandsons, Joe and Dan Anderson.

Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the American Cancer Society .

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, May 24th, at 1:00pm, at Sarasota National Cemetery, 9810-State Road 72, Sarasota, FL 34241.

Toale Brothers Funeral Homes, Gulf Gate Chapel is handling arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Mrs. Anderson and family,

I'm so sorry to hear of George's passing. I worked with him at the heating plant for a number of years. He was a fine man, somewhat on the quiet side. I do not believe I ever heard him speak of anyone in a negative way. Always a pleasure to work with him.

I am enclosing something that may give you and yours some comfort. I found it when I had to give a eulogy for my Grand mother who passed away quite some time ago at the age of 102. I hope it brings some comfort to you and yours.

With Respect, Jerry Johnson. Sycamore, Ill

We are born for a higher destiny than that of earth; there is a realm where the rainbow never fades, where the stars will be spread before us like islands that slumber on the ocean, and where the beings that pass before us like shadows will stay in our presence forever.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

May 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Anna, We were very sorry to hear of George's passing. He will be sorely missed. I'll miss our talks with George when we come to Siesta Key

Wayne & Diane Bergman - May 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM