



Donald Martin

June 14, 1923 - July 3, 2011

Donald B. Martin, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, educator and coach, passed away peacefully on July 3 in Corvallis, surrounded by loved ones.

Don was born on June 14, 1923, in Grants Pass to James and Ethelyn Bartlett Martin. He was a three-sport varsity athlete at Grants Pass High School, graduating in 1941. He attended the University of Oregon for one year prior to enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. He proudly served in the Pacific Theatre during World War II as a radio gunner on dive bombers. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and four air medals.

Don was married to Amy Aileen Pruden on Aug. 16, 1945, in Grants Pass. He received his bachelor's degree in physical education and his master's degree in health education from the U of O.

He began his teaching career in The Dalles; he taught physical education and coached sports at the junior high school before moving to the high school, where he taught and was head basketball coach and athletic director. He was revered as a coach and mentor to many young people.

In 1966, he and his family moved to Corvallis, where he joined the physical education staff at Oregon State University. He remained in that position until he retired as associate professor of physical education in 1983.

After retirement, he traveled extensively with his wife, both domestically and internationally. He was a volunteer for the American Red Cross, Stone Soup and St. Mary's Catholic Church. His interests included tennis, bridge and

fishing. A day did not go by without Don completing several crossword puzzles. His greatest joy was the gathering of the Martin clan.

Don is survived by his wife of nearly 66 years, Amy; daughters Kathy (Coyne) VanderJack of Juneau, Alaska, Mary (Michael) Casey of Portland, Martha (Tom) Callahan of Portland, and Aileen (Roger) Lengel of Seattle, Wash.; 11 grandchildren, Andrew (Margaret), Michael and Mary VanderJack, Emily (Daniel) Casey Keller and Conor Casey, Joseph (Nelly), Patrick, Sean and Brian Callahan, and Allison and William Lengel; one great-grandson, James Martin VanderJack; his sister, Louise Warner; and a nephew, Tom Meienberg. A memorial Mass is set for 1 p.m. Monday, July 11, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Corvallis. A private burial with full military honors will take place at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

Remembrances can be made to St. Mary's Stone Soup, 501 N.W. 25th St., Corvallis, OR, 97330, or to Old Mill Center for Children and Families, 1650 S.W. 45th Place, Corvallis, OR, 97330.