



## Lawrence Underwood

October 14, 1921 - May 12, 2016

Remembering a war hero and family hero — decorated World War II veteran Larry

Underwood died May 12 surrounded by family members at the age of 94.

Larry was born in Newton, Massachusetts, on Oct. 14, 1921. His family growing up lived in Ridgefield, Washington, where his father was superintendent of the school district. After moving to Corvallis he graduated from Corvallis High School, and then entered the army in 1941. He worked at United Chrome Products as a salesman for many years. Then Larry started his own metal fabrication business in Philomath called Underwood and Sons.

Larry was a highly decorated veteran who served in the army from 1941 to 1945 in the war in the Pacific. For his war injuries and valor he was the recipient of three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. To keep his memories fresh, one of his prized possessions was a large flag of Imperial Japan that he confiscated from a Japanese airbase in New Guinea in 1944. Inscribed on the flag are dozens of names, the names of his fellow soldiers in the 162nd Infantry Regiment of the 41st Division — the Jungleers. Larry enjoyed getting together for reunions with his band of brothers.

While he maintained contact with his fellow veterans when he returned from

the war he wanted to get on with his life which he did. He married the love of his life, Dotty, in 1945, and they lived happily together in Corvallis, and celebrated over 71 years of marriage. His family came to see him as an even greater hero for the way he provided for them and kept them together, providing support and wisdom that can only come from a well lived life. He was our hero!

Larry enjoyed spending time with his family in his backyard and pool, playing horseshoes, Sunday poker night, fishing, Army reunions, bingo, welding sculptures in his garage, and of course playing practical jokes on his neighbors. He was a member of Elks and Moose lodges, and Roaming Antlers Club.

He is survived by his siblings and children: one son, Wendell Underwood of Corvallis, and two daughters, Janice Lehman of Corvallis and Patti Eby of Portland. Larry is also survived by seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Remembrances can be made to Hospice Care of the Northwest.

A celebration of life will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at Corvallis Oregon National Guard Armory, 1100 NW Kings Blvd., Corvallis.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 4. 1:00 AM (PT)

Oregon National Guard Armory  
1315 Southwest E St.  
Corvallis, OR 97333

# Tribute Wall

BV

“ Sorry to hear of Larry Passing away. Love and Prayers to the family. Our visit with Larry and Dot will always be special to me. Love Billie Vandervort

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**Billie Vandervort** - May 14, 2016 at 04:04 PM

JM

“ Larry was a good friend to my parents Phil and Trudy Jacob, through the Corvallis Elks and Company M army reunions in the summer. Both families were lifelong residents of Corvallis and enjoyed each other's company.

*Please accept my condolences to your family.*

*Sincerely,*

*Judy Jacob McCann  
jjtm@peak.org*

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**Judy Jacob McCann** - May 14, 2016 at 03:57 PM



“ Larry and Dottie Underwood were best friends with my parents. They were both with my mother and my father when they passed away years apart. Please accept my sincere condolences. Sandi Tracewell Kucera. Daughter of Lloyd and Jeanne Tracewell.

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**Sandra Kucera** - May 14, 2016 at 10:36 AM