

NO PHOTO Thompson, Virgil
Coeur d'Alene, ID
381st 1st BN

Virgil N. Thompson, 89, of Coeur d'Alene, died Wednesday, April 18, 2001, at Life Care Center of Coeur d'Alene.

He was born Jan. 8, 1912, in Prescott, Wash., to James A. and Mabel Thompson. Virgil graduated in 1932 from the University of Idaho with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

In 1933, he married Jane Brill in Lewiston, where they lived for many years. Virgil worked for Washington Water Power in numerous positions from 1933 until 1976, when he retired as division manager in Coeur d'Alene.

He served as an officer in World War II in the 381st Infantry Division, 96th Division, seeing action in the Philippine campaign. He was the battalion commander in the Okinawa campaign and rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel by the time of his discharge from active duty in 1946. He remained in the U.S. Army Reserve, attaining the rank of full colonel before retiring in 1963.

Virgil was active in the University of Idaho Alumni organization and a loyal Vandal fan. He was affiliated with the AF&AM, Scottish Rite, Shriners, Jester, BPOE and Rotary Club. He was an avid golfer and a past member of the Hayden Lake Country Club. He enjoyed fishing and gardening with his wife, Jane Thompson.

Jane died March 25. They would have celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on May 3 of this year. The Thompsons' beloved son, David, died in 1994.

Virgil is survived by his sister-in-law, Barbara B. Chipman of Medford, Ore.; daughter-in-law Helen Jacobs Thompson of Portland, Ore.; grandchildren Brenda Kuharski and Todd Thompson, both of Spokane; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service for Virgil and Jane Thompson is at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Yates Funeral Home in Coeur d'Alene. The Rev. John G. Hay will officiate.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 501 Wallace Ave., Coeur d'Alene 83814.