



SLAUGHTER, CHARLES EDWIN

CO A 382ND INFANTRY

September 20, 1925 - February 13, 2015

Charles Edwin Slaughter was born September 20, 1925 to Lawrence and Martha (Tanselle) Slaughter. He went to be Home with the Lord on February 13, 2015. He was a proud, lifelong resident of Lebanon, Indiana.

Charlie attended Lebanon School Corporation and was student manager of the Lebanon High School Basketball team when they were in the State Championship in 1943. He hosted a reunion of the team players for many years. Charlie graduated from Lebanon High School in 1944; however, as he was already deployed, his mother accepted his diploma on his behalf.

Charlie proudly served his country in the United States Army during World War II where he was in the South Pacific, the Philippines, and Leyte. Charlie was wounded at the Battle of Okinawa. He was awarded an Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with two Bronze Stars, a Good Conduct Medal, a World War II Victory Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation, a Combat Infantry Badge, and a Purple Heart. He was awarded an additional Bronze Star for having received a Combat Infantry Badge and a Purple Heart at a ceremony by Congressman Steve Buyer on Veterans Day, 2003.

Charlie was honorably discharged from the United States Army in 1945. Soon thereafter, he entered DePauw University where he majored in Advertising and was active in Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity. Shortly after leaving DePauw, Charlie was introduced to Mary Lane Hubble, another DePauw Student, by her sorority sister Mary Beth (Simmons) Pauley and Charlie's friend Jim Pauley. Charlie and Mary Lane were married three months later on October 2, 1948 in Elgin, Illinois. She was the love of his life and they spent over 66 very happy years together.

After marrying, Charlie and Mary Lane returned to Lebanon where Charlie managed his father's grocery store. Charlie's real career passion, however, was sales, as it melded nicely with his love of people. He worked for many years as a salesman for a variety of industrial equipment firms, most notably for Paul Honan, Sr. Charlie retired as Advertising Manager of The Lebanon Reporter after 20 years of service.

Charlie loved Lebanon, Indiana and was very proud of his community. He twice served as the Grand Marshal of the Lebanon 4th of July Parade. He also served many years on the Board of Directors of the Witham Foundation and on the Chamber of Commerce Board. He was also a member of the VFW, the Elks Lodge, and the American Legion. He had been a very active Kiwanis Club member for many years.

Charlie loved sports, especially golf. He was a member of Ulen Country Club for over 70 years and, upon retirement, could be found there just about every day playing golf. He also delivered meals on wheels and volunteered for a number of local organizations. He was a fine woodworker and photographer and an accomplished bridge player.

Charlie was a lifelong member of Otterbein United Methodist Church where he was very active. He began his service with Otterbein when he and Mary Lane served as Youth Leaders. He often served as Lay Leader and, while Mary Lane was playing the organ or leading the choir, he could be found in the vestibule serving as head usher or ringing the church bell.

In his later years, Charlie became well-recognized for his military service and became more active in veterans groups. Charlie and Mary Lane were guests of Senator Richard Lugar during the opening ceremonies of the National World War II Memorial in 2004. He was interviewed by Japanese television and his military service was recounted in several books.

Most importantly, Charlie was a loving father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He enjoyed spending time with his family and travelled extensively to visit his grandsons while they were in college or when his oldest grandson, Chad, was coaching football.

Charlie joins in heaven, his parents, great-granddaughter Caroline Louise Brown, as well as a host of loyal dogs, and many friends. He leaves behind a loving family who will forever remember his kindness, generosity, and quiet and humble wisdom. He is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years, Mary Lane (Hubbell) Slaughter; his children, Laurie Brown of Lebanon, Indiana and C. Lane (wife, Carolyn) Slaughter of Plainfield, Indiana; his grandsons, Chad Q. (wife, Jennifer) Brown of Lafayette, Indiana, Rev. Nathan C. (wife, Marion) Brown of Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and Chase Harrison Slaughter of Plainfield, Indiana; and great-grandchildren Emily, Dylan, and Elise Brown of Lafayette, Indiana and Harrison and Clara Brown of Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Family and friends will gather Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015 for a visitation from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. and a memorial service will be held on Friday, Feb. 20 at 1 p.m. in the Strawmyer & Drury Mortuary, 2400 N. Lebanon St, Lebanon. You are invited to visit the website www.strawmyerdrury.com where you may sign his online register and leave a personal message.

Donations in memory of Charles E. Slaughter may be made to Otterbein United Methodist Church, 804 S. Lebanon St., Lebanon, IN 46052 or to the Lebanon Public Library, 104 E. Washington St., Lebanon, IN 46052.