AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY

FORT DEFIANCE VIRGINIA

Remembering our brothers who have passed from this life.

Bruce Eddington Melchor ‘45

October 5, 1927 – December 30, 2020

Bruce Errington Melchor, Jr. ("Booty"), 93, peacefully passed away on Wednesday, December 30, 2020. Booty, a Norfolk native, was born to Bruce E. Melchor, Sr. and Christine Rogers Melchor. He attended Augusta Military Academy, graduated from Granby High School, and was attending UNC at Chapel Hill when he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He was commissioned a lieutenant, served as a paratrooper in the 11th Airborne Division in U.S. Occupied Japan, and was honorably discharged as a Captain. Upon returning from Japan, Booty married Patricia Lee Boyd, in 1948. After parting ways, they remained very close friends until her death 10 months ago.

His work life included years with his family's Norfolk Pepsi Cola Bottling Company (later Allegheny Pepsi), PepsiCo as a VP, Goodman-Segar-Hogan where he became the #1 Commercial Real Estate Salesman in just 1 year, and a number of other commercial real estate ventures.

Booty was known for his quick wit, his infectious smile, and for his kind, compassionate, and loving spirit. He adored his family and friends.

His enthusiasm for life carried over into his athletic activities, recreation, and civic services. He was passionate about physical fitness, especially running and

playing handball at the Y. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting and fishing, especially hunting by horse in the wild West with his buddies, fly fishing all over the world, target shooting with his brother Jimmy, hiking, boating, and traveling. He particularly loved flying his planes and was a pilot until he could pilot no more!

He served on the Norfolk Port Authority and on the Board of the YMCA that honored him in 2015 with the award of Order of the Red Triangle. He was a member of First Lutheran Church, a founder of YMCA Camp Silver Beach on the Eastern Shore, a regional representative of the Belgian-American Chamber of Commerce, and an active member of the Norfolk Sertoma Club.

Booty was preceded in death by his son, Bruce E. Melchor, III and by Pat Melchor. He is survived by his son - Robert Boyd Melchor (Dee Oliver) of VA Beach, daughters - Lee M. (Turlington) Nelson (Paul) of Richmond VA and Anne Melchor of Norfolk, brother - James R. Melchor (Marilyn) of Norfolk, sister - Peggy M. Harris of N.C., grandchildren - Douglas A. Melchor, Margaret E. Melchor, Katherine ("Katie") L. Turlington, Christine Melchor, Robert B. Melchor, Jr., step-grandchildren - Jacquie Oliver Kohart, Madison Oliver and Aven Oliver, daughter-in-law - Elizabeth Fife, and by many devoted friends.

At AMA for 2 years, Bruce was (44) Pvt. Co. B, Wrestling Team, White Page; (45) Sgt. Co. D, Colors, Wrestling Team

From the 1945 Recall: “Bruce arrived last year in time to receive a high school diploma. Thinking an A.M.A. would be worth more in later life, he returned this vear to prove his worth as a N.C.O. Spark Plug to the wrestling is an all around good fellow. When called to active service in his favorite branch, the Air Corps, we know the best will be in store for him.”

See more of Bruce Melchor’s cadet life at: https://archive.org/details/augusta-military-academy-recall-1945