



Remembering our brothers who have passed from this life

CLICK, D. ERNEST JR. '48 Ernie

Died 29 February 2016 in Jacksonville, FL, following a stroke. He was retired and had been in poor health for several months.

Ernie was born in Augusta County, VA, on 20 February 1930 and entered AMA in September 1945. His mother, Sally Stout Click, served as the AMA school nurse (1948-51) and, as Sally Simmons, she was Housemother of J-Barracks (1965-69). Ernie's younger brother, **Edwin '50**, followed him to AMA in 1947.

Swimming became a major part of Ernie's life at Augusta. He was the State Champion Prep School backstroke in 1948 as well as a member of the State Champion Medley Relay team. In the National Prep School meet in Trenton he took second in the 100-meter backstroke.

After graduation, Ernie enlisted in the Marines, endured boot camp at Parris Island, SC, and trained as a motor mechanic at Camp Lejeune and Norfolk. When released into the reserves, he invested his time and efforts in establishing himself in the poultry business. The Korean War prompted his recall to active duty, and 1951 found him posted at the Marine Barracks at "Eighth and Eye" in Washington, DC. He became a member of the ceremonial precision drill team.

A year later he was released again from active duty. He sold insurance, worked construction, drove buses, and operated streetcars, all the while rebuilding an old farm house near Manassas which was the home for his new family. This continued for almost twenty years, when he took his family to Florida.

Once again selling insurance and building supplies, he bought and operated a motel. Soon he was selling real estate and building supplies and operating a truss plant. His last venture was to own and operate an assisted living facility in central Florida. He and his wife moved to the coast at Flagler Beach, bought a large RV, and set out to travel the country in their retirement. They moved into an assisted living facility in Jacksonville in 2015.

He is survived by his wife, Marge; two daughters; three grandchildren; and one brother.

At Augusta three years: Platoon Sergeant in B Company; Roller Rifles; Swimming, Work Boy.

(2016 Summer *Bayonet*)