



Remembering our brothers who have passed from this life

SPROUL, LTG ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER

Lieutenant General Archibald Alexander Sproul, 89, died on 2 July 2005. He was born September 15 at "Locust Grove" in Middlebrook, Virginia, the Sproul family home since the late 18th century. A graduate of Washington & Lee University, he enlisted in the 116th Infantry Regiment of the 29th Division, US Army National Guard, prior to the start of WWII.

Sproul led one of the first infantry companies to land on Omaha Beach on D-Day. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for valor in the D-Day campaign by General Omar Bradley. Wounded three separate times, he earned three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. Sproul remained active in the National Guard until he retired as Commander of the 29th Division in the late 1960's.

In the insurance business for over 20 years as co-owner of W. J. Perry Corp., Sproul founded Virginia International, a trading company specializing in oil development in Indonesia in the early 1970's,

General Sproul was very active in community and charitable services. He served on the Trinity Church Vestry, YMCA Board of Directors, Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center Board of Trustees, VMI Board of Visitors, and he was one of

the original members of the Historic Staunton Foundation. One of the founders of the Frontier Culture Museum, he served as president of the Museum Foundation and as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Though he never attended AMA, General Sproul was always a good friend of Augusta and later of **Jim Starnes '50**. Jim labored for two years developing a plan to reopen AMA as a military junior college, and General Sproul was the key to opening doors at VMI, the Department of the Army, VMI, the Virginia National Guard and Blue Ridge Community College, all of whom were to be involved. All the hard work came to naught as the funding for the new AMA could not be obtained, "but no one worked harder or smarter than Arch Sproul to see that our school would reopen, " Starnes said.

General Sproul is survived by his wife; his sister; his two daughters; his son, and six grandchildren.

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