



Remembering our brothers who have passed from this life

THOMAS, MASON D., '42

Died 24 August 2011 in the Virginia Hospital Center, Arlington, VA, aged 85.

Thomas had a heating and air conditioning business in Northern Virginia, but was best known as “Country” Thomas, a jazz musician who played with such greats as Louis Armstrong, Errol Garner and Artie Shaw. He performed at countless hotels and night clubs in Washington, DC, playing sax, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, tuba, upright bass and piano.

After six years at AMA, he entered the Army and served in Europe during World War II. After the war, he frequented the jazz scene in New York City before returning to Washington, his home town. He worked for a while as a musician in Las Vegas.

He is survived by his companion, Nancy Greathead of Arlington; daughters Lynn Hunter, Jamie France, and Kelly Thomas; sons, Dale Thomas and Guy; a stepson, nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

At Augusta six years: Platoon Sergeant, D Company, Minnow football. Tribute to Mason found at: [youtube.com/watch?v=oGMwgtvDCsE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGMwgtvDCsE) (Mason playing "Willow Weep for Me")

(2012 Winter **Bayonet**)