



Frederick A. Cruise

January 20, 1929 - March 24, 2017

COL. FREDRICK A. CRUISE

On a beautiful March day, surrounded by his loving family, Col. Fredrick (Fred) Cruise of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas and currently residing in Lake City, Florida, passed on quietly at the Haven Hospice Center in Lake City at the age of 88. He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 68 years, Betty; children Bruce (Denise) Cruise, Kathy (Steve) O'Dell, Tim Cruise and Cindy (Jim) Hunt, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Fredrick S. and Gertha Cruise, his brother Donald Cruise and his son-in-law, Rick Kahler.

Fred was born in Highland Park, Michigan in 1929 and attended Henry Ford Trade School in Detroit, Michigan. In 1949, Fred enlisted in the Marines and after completing his tour of duty, he joined the U.S. Army and was assigned to the XVIII (18th) Airborne Corp in Fort Bragg, NC. In 1952 he attended Officer Candidate School in El Paso, Texas and graduated a 2nd Lieutenant.

Fred married the love of his life, Betty Pollock Cruise in 1950. In 1953, he joined the Army Reserves in Michigan where he continued to serve his country for the next 30 years, retiring as a full Colonel in 1983. Also in the private Sector, Fred became a corporate Vice President of AAA of Michigan.

After retiring in 1983, Fred & Betty moved to Fairfield Bay, Arkansas. After the collapse of the Fairfield Bay Communities, Fred served as CEO and was instrumental in putting the Bay back on sound financial footing. Fred and Betty enjoyed many years in Arkansas and loved golfing. They won the mixed doubles in the State of Arkansas Golf Championship and were honored to compete in the finals in Orlando, Florida in the Oldsmobile Golf Tournament. The highlight of his and Betty's love of golf was playing the St. Andrews course in Scotland.

Fred enjoyed life, especially life with his energetic and growing family. He and Betty loved traveling the country especially their special "one at a time" grandchild trips. A late love, exercise partner and loyal companion was his dog, Lady. Above all, Fred loved and cherished his wife Betty. We will all miss him dearly.

Funeral Services will be held on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at the Dryer Funeral Home in Holly, Michigan. Military honors and interment will be held at 2:30 PM on Monday at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. Visitation will be from 2-5:30 PM Sunday. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be sent to Haven Hospice Center, 6037 W. US Hwy. 90, Lake City, Florida 32055 in his name.

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

Holly, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St
Holly, MI 48442
(248) 634-8291

Service

APR 2. 5:30 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St
Holly, MI 48442
(248) 634-8291

Service

APR 3. 2:30 PM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
Holly, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Dryer Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Frederick A. Cruise*



Dryer Funeral Home, Inc. - March 30, 2017 at 02:42 PM



Tiiugnvv

Stacey Allen - March 30, 2017 at 04:36 PM



Thinking of you and your family didn't know all of them sometimes you just know how great a person is without knowing them and your family is just that

Brenda Dortch - March 31, 2017 at 07:24 AM



Thinking of you and sending our prayers, Love Gus, Julie, and family

Julie A Miller - April 02, 2017 at 05:30 PM



BEAUTIFUL, LOVED IT. HE WILL REST IN PEACE.

NANCY STACHNIK - April 04, 2017 at 08:03 AM



“ *Condolences to Betty and family. I don't think I ever met Fred, but I know he must have been a wonderful person. Our thoughts are with you as you travel and gather for the funeral. Joanna and Don Workman (Betty will know me as daughter of Shirley Wells)*

Joanna Workman - March 30, 2017 at 04:28 PM



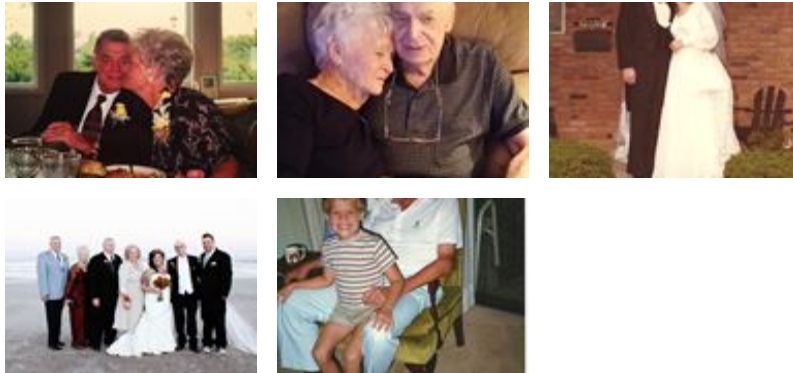
“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederick A. Cruise.*



March 30, 2017 at 04:14 PM



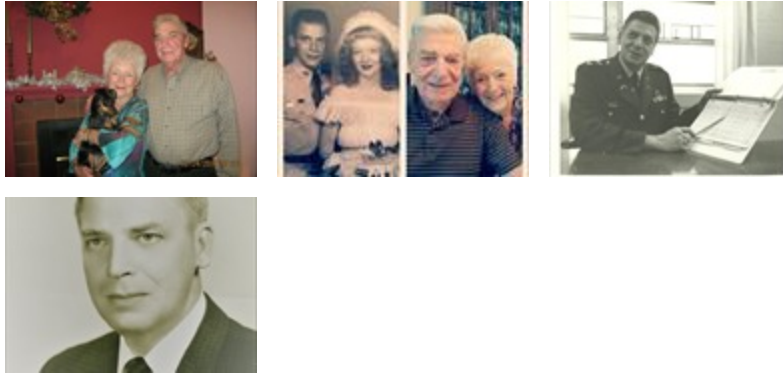
“ *25 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Dryer Funeral Home, Inc. - March 30, 2017 at 02:10 PM

CH

“ 4 files added to the album Memories



Cindy Hunt - March 30, 2017 at 10:31 AM

RS

“ Rest In Peace Fred. Always enjoyed the times we spent with you and Betty.

Ron Steffens - March 29, 2017 at 11:34 AM

DC

“ Grandpa Cruise was a special person and we will all miss him. He was the rock of our family and loved everyone of us. You really can't define true love and the way he and my Grandma loved and cared for one another. Grandpa was a great role model and he is a big reason for my own success in life. He worked hard and was a big support for his family. Every time I talked to him on the phone he would start by saying "Good Mornin!" no matter the time of day hahaha. He would also end by saying "I'll talk to you soon, Good lord willing." Well I know he was a believer and he is a peace in the Heaven of God. Thank you for being such a special part of my life. I love you Grandpa and I'll see you again someday.

David Cruise - March 28, 2017 at 04:02 PM

NS

Excellent tribute to your Grandpa

Nancy stachnik - April 04, 2017 at 08:37 AM

RF

“ *I would like to send my condolences to my Great Aunt Betty. I really thought the world of Uncle Fred and he will be greatly missed. I know he is with my mom and the rest of the family together again. I salute you Uncle Fred from one veteran to another.*

Rick and Deb Forgach

Richard Forgach - March 27, 2017 at 07:56 PM