



Mainard E. Leach

August 5, 1926 - February 18, 2016

Mainard “Mel” Leach died peacefully in Albany on Feb. 18, 2016, at the age of 89 while at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice.

Mel is survived by his wife, Shirley L. Leach; sons Dana Leach and Randy Leach; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Martha Leach.

Mel was born on Aug. 5, 1926, in Portland. In January of 1944, at the age of 17, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he served as a private in the Marine Amphibian Tractor Battalion and received a citation.

“For heroic achievement in connection with operations against the enemy while serving with a Marine amphibian tractor battalion on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, on 19 February 1945.

Private Leach volunteered to operate a caterpillar tractor towing amphibian trucks across the beach. Although fully exposed to enemy mortar, artillery and small arms fire, Private Leach continued his work until all amphibian trucks were clear of the beach. Through his efforts, the amphibian trucks were landed and dispatched with their vital cargo of artillery and ammunition to the front lines. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United

States Naval Service.”

A celebration of Mel's life will be at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, at DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home, 815 N.W. Buchanan Ave, Corvallis. A reception will follow.

Flowers and condolences can be sent to 277 N.E. Conifer Blvd., #128, Corvallis, OR 97330.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **23**. 4:00 PM (PT)

DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home and Crematory
815 NW Buchanan Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 754-6255
<https://www.demosdurdan.com>