



Alexander Dawes Beattie

May 13, 1921 - March 3, 2013

Alexander Dawes Beattie, 91, of Chambersburg, died Sunday morning, March 3, 2013 at Menno Haven. Born May 13, 1921 in Chambersburg, he was the son of the late Benjamin Myers Beattie, DVM and Clara Montgomery Beattie. Alex was a 1939 graduate of Chambersburg High School and a 1941 graduate of Mercersburg Academy. He attended Lehigh University but left to enlist in the U.S. Navy in 1942. He completed his cadet training in Chapel Hill, NC and was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. During WWII Alex flew 40 combat missions in a F4-U Corsair with Marine Air Group 14 providing ground support in the Pacific. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Gold Star, and he also received an Air Medal and eight Gold Stars.

Returning to Chambersburg after the war he became a quality control inspector for the U.S. Air Force at the Fairchild Aircraft Corporation in Hagerstown, MD. In the early 1960's he began building houses in the Chambersburg area. Later, with his business partner, C. Jay Overcash, he began the development of Coldbrook Meadows. He served as President of the Franklin County Builders Association in 1967. He restored the log cabin near the site of Fort Chambers on W. King St. and built the waterwheel near the confluence of the Falling Spring and Conococheague Creek. Because of his deep commitment to the revitalization of Chambersburg, he was appointed in 1982 as Chairman of the Downtown Task Force. He also completed an early restoration of the Thaddeus Stevens Blacksmith Shop and helped

maintain the property at Carrick Furnace. In 1989 he was honored as Preservationist of the Year by Franklin County Heritage, Inc.

Alex was a Life Member and Post Commander (1956) of the American Legion Burt J. Asper Post 46. He was a lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring where he served as an Elder. For nearly 60 years, he was a leader and advisor to Boy Scout Troop 127. A charter member of Falling Spring Horse Valley Acres, he worked tirelessly to preserve and maintain the natural beauty of the area. Alex was an accomplished pianist who enjoyed his Labrador Retrievers, his poker club, ballroom dancing, sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, and spending as much time as possible with his family. He is survived by his beloved wife of 69 years, Adair Wilson Beattie, and three children: Alexander "Zan" D. Beattie, Jr. (Alison); Barbara W. Beattie; and Adair "Bunny" B. Toddes (Steven); a daughter-in-law, Judy C. Beattie; eight grandchildren: Sarah Repucci (Demian), Lt. Cmdr. Jonathan Beattie (Jennifer), Timothy Peterson (Michele), Jessica Parker (Matthew), Emily Karottki (Salvador), Steven Toddes, Jr. (Erin), Elizabeth Peterson, Matthew Toddes; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Benjamin W. Beattie, and his sisters, Rachel Sullivan and Mary Kesler. A memorial service will be held at the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Camp Falling Spring c/o Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring, 221 N. Main St., Chambersburg, PA. Online condolences may be expressed at www.sellersfuneralhome.com To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Alexander Dawes Beattie, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ Dear Family, We only knew Alex for such a short time, and found out that he was a distant relative of Sam's. It was interesting to discuss their relationship and we are so sorry for Alex' passing.

Samuel G. & Sally Scroggs - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ As you look back at my life, there are few people that truly make a difference in your life. Alex was one of these people. From a very young age, spending time with Alex, he taught me to...take your hat off indoors, look a man in the eye when you shake his hand, and what they call a wheel-borrow in Germany. They don't call them, they push them like we do. Always laughing after telling the joke like he was telling me for the first time. Alex was truly someone to be respected. I still remember him telling me of his experience skydiving from a plane I think on his 60th birthday. Stand up straight, show respect, and always be generous to help others. He has shown me a lot through the years and will always be remembered and thought highly of. He helped turn me into the man I am today. God Bless.

Jeffrey Beegle - March 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ My Wife and I only met Alex and Adair a few years ago. Alex thought we were related through common relatives who once lived in Newville, PA. I consider it an honor to have known Alex, if for only a short time. I hold his service to our country in great regard, and wish peace and blessings for his family.

Sam & Sally Scroggs - March 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ I just read about Alex's passing. What a loss for the community and all who knew him. My condolences especially to you Adair, and Zan, Barb and Bunny, as well as Judy and Johnathan. We will all miss him mightily. When Brokaw talked about the Greatest Generation, he really WAS talking about Alex.

Ed Sadtler - March 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ We were so sad to read of Alex passing. He was truly a wonderful friend and next door neighbor on Highland Avenue. I truly enjoyed my visits at Penn Hall. I will continue those with Mrs.Beattie. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Sincerely, Mike & Vicki Washinger

Mike & Vicki Washinger - March 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM