



Betsy Santelmann Grunwell

Betsy Santelmann Grunwell, 78, of Lynchburg, died January 7th at Lynchburg General Hospital. She was the devoted wife of the late Robert (Bob) Lockwood Grunwell and loving mother of three children and affectionate grandmother of five grandchildren.

Born May 28, 1931, in Washington, D.C., Betsy was the youngest of two children of the late Lt. Col. William F. Santelmann and Margaret R. Santelmann.

Betsy attended the National Cathedral School in Washington, D.C. Originally she was thinking of going into performing as a pianist and had been accepted at Julliard School of Music, but decided that a life of performing was not what she wanted. She took a secretarial course which gave her the background to work at M.T. Broyhill & Sons, in their insurance division. She met Bob and they married in 1955 and lived in Springfield, VA. When Bob had an accident that forced him to leave his job, they moved to Lynchburg, VA in 1963.

She was a strong supporter and at times joint member of the groups Bob was associated with, helping with the Virginia Island Sailing Association, the United States Power Squadron, the Exchange Club of Lynchburg, and the Lynchburg Civil War Roundtable. She was a member of the Exchanges and a long time member and historian of the Lynchburg Suburban Woman's Club. Betsy loved to play bridge and belonged to two bridge groups and occasionally substituted for the Rivermont Senior Center.

She is survived by her son Randall (Randy), his wife Robin, their children Chris and Lisa of Suwanee, GA; her eldest daughter Sharon (Grunwell) Jennings, her husband Bill, their children Kathleen, Rob, and Sarah of Lynchburg, VA; and her youngest daughter Margaret of Lynchburg, VA, as well as her brother William F. Santelmann, Jr., sister-in-law, brothers-in-law, many nieces, nephews and their children.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, January 16, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at Diuguid Wiggington Road Chapel with the Rev. Meggan Farwell officiating. The family will receive friends Friday, January 15, 2010 from 7-8:30 P.M. at the funeral home. Interment will be in Spring Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plantation. P.O. Box 1398, Brookneal, VA 24528 or the Lynchburg Life Saving Crew, P.O. Box 675, Lynchburg, VA 24505-0675.

Diuguid Funeral Service-Wiggington Road Chapel (385-8900) is serving the family.

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Robert "Bob" Lockwood Grunwell

Robert "Bob" Lockwood Grunwell, 79, of Lynchburg, died January 24, 2009, at Lynchburg General Hospital of complications from cancer treatment. He was the husband of Betsy Santelmann Grunwell, loving father of three children and affectionate grandfather of five grandchildren.

Born May 9, 1929, in Washington, D.C., Bob was the youngest of five children of the late John R. and Charlotte L. Grunwell. His two brother, Alfred B. Grunwell and John R. Grunwell Jr. preceded him in death.

Bob served in the U. S. Army, learning engineering maintenance, which he put to use in Korea during the Korean War. When he returned, he found a job in Washington, D.C. as a heavy equipment foreman. After moving up in the company of M.T. Broyhill & Sons, he had an accident that forced him to leave a job where footing on irregular terrain could injure him further. He discovered and bought into Hydrate Battery Corporation in 1963 in Lynchburg. After buying his partner's family out, as president he ran the company until he retired in 1986.

Being fond of the water, Bob was a Sea Scout, a member of the Corinthian Yacht Club, Virginia Island Sailing Association and the United States Power Squadron. He was known for teaching many courses for safe boating and navigation. He was also very active with the Exchange Club of Lynchburg in the building of Freedom Shrines, fingerprinting school children and the annual MDA Carnival and Pancake Jamborees.

As a member of the Lynchburg Civil War Roundtable, he served as the treasurer and took part in many meetings and outings.

He is survived by his wife, Betsy; a son, Randall (Randy), his wife Robin and their children, Chris and Lisa, of Suwanee, GA; his eldest daughter, Sharon (Grunwell) Jennings, her husband, Bill and their children, Kathleen, Rob and Sarah, of Lynchburg; his youngest daughter, Margaret, of Lynchburg; as well as his sisters, Mrs. Eleanor (Grunwell) Davis and Mrs. Margaret (Peggy) Grunwell Kohl's; and his brothers-in-law, sister-in-law, many nieces, nephews and their children.

A special thank you to all the nurses, support staff and respiratory folks who took care of Bob at Lynchburg General Coronary Care Unit. Their caring and compassion were above and beyond their jobs.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, January 31, 2009, at Diuguid Wiggington Chapel. Interment will follow in Spring Hill Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 7-8 P.M. Friday, January 30, 2009 at the funeral home.

The family suggests that memorials be made to Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plantation or the Lynchburg Life Saving Crew.

Diuguid Funeral Service & Crematory-Wiggington Chapel is assisting Bob's family.