



William R. Ojala

January 23, 1925 - January 6, 2018

Bill Ojala, 92, Mentor, OH formerly of Aurora, Minnesota, went home to be with his Lord, January 6, 2018, with daughter Kathy Wahlgren and granddaughter Karen Gray by his side.

Bill was a lifelong MN public servant. He was an attorney, who served as a school board, member, a St. Louis County Commissioner, MN State Representative, Aurora City Councilor, and Mayor of his town at age 80.

Bill was a proud World War II Marine. He fought in the South Pacific battle of Tarawa with the 2nd Marine Division and also served with the 6th Defense Battalion on Midway Island. His military service led him to be a strong advocate for peace the rest of his life.

He was a voracious reader who enjoyed photography, travel, gardening, skiing, picking blueberries, writing for his local newspaper, and following high school sports and UMD college hockey.

He is survived by his children Charles (Shelley) Ojala of California; Mary (Nick) Logan of Colorado; Kathy (Terry) Wahlgren of Mentor, Ohio; and David (Amy) of Minnesota; 10 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He and his wife Dorothy opened their home to three foreign exchange students, Juan, Kari, and Bjorn and a foster son, Joel.

His Finnish immigrant parents, Mary and Charles Ojala, his loving wife of 63 years, Dorothy, his brother Arthur Ojala and sister Hazel Ojala, preceded Bill in death.

A memorial service will be held at 11a.m., Saturday, February 3rd, at Grace Church of Mentor, 6883 Reynolds Road.

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace Church Of Mentor
6883 Reynolds Rd
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-7045

Tribute Wall

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“ So sad to hear of Bill's passing.

I have so many great memories as an exchange student while staying with Bill and Dorothy. Bill exposed me to so many new experiences while in Minnesota and was such a generous person with his time and thoughts. I will always remember the many great moment with Bill, Dorothy and family.

I must say that Bill was quite the pool shark with great laughter when he won the game!

My condolences to the whole family.

Kari Korpikoski

Kari Korpikoski - February 01, 2018 at 12:36 PM