



Raymond Michael Tokarz

November 7, 1921 - February 9, 2015

Raymond Michael Tokarz, 93, of West Point, VA died February 9, 2015 in Richmond, VA. He was a native of Port Richmond, VA, and the son of the late Joseph Thomas Tokarz and Julia Ryczak Tokarz. He was preceded in death by his wife of 71 years Harriet Hammer Tokarz and six brothers Leon, Stanley Edmund, John, Clemence and Joseph.

He attended Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament School, West Point High School and graduated from Virginia Tech in 1943 with a degree in Industrial Engineering. He entered the Army as a 1st Lieutenant in the 216 Army Engineers attached to the 16th Armored Division, where he served in the European Theater during World War II. After his military service, Ray was employed by Chesapeake Corporation where he retired after 38 years of service in engineering and corporate management.

Raymond was active in many community projects. He was involved in the construction of the first Armory and Recreation Building in West Point and served as chairman for several years. He also served on West Point Town Council and the Port Richmond Improvement Association. Ray was a member of the Society of Professional Engineers of Virginia, The Polish Society of Virginia, 16th Armored Division Association and The Virginia Tech Alumni Association. Raymond was also a member of the American Legion, VFW, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis and Chamber of Commerce where he served on the Board of Directors.

Raymond is survived by a daughter Andrea T. Mason of Tampa, FL; a son

Michael Allen Tokarz of Richmond; two granddaughters Sarah Finley Mason of Denver, Co and Katherine Elizabeth Mason of Chicago, IL; and two brothers Pete and Thomas Tokarz both of Richmond.

A funeral mass will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, February 14th at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, 3570 King William Avenue, West Point, VA 23181. Interment will follow in St. Theresa Cemetery. The family will receive friends 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at Vincent Funeral Home, 417 11th Street, West Point, VA, followed by a Christian Vigil at 7 p.m.

Memorials may be made to West Point Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc., Box X, West Point, VA 23181 or the Capitol Building Fund of the Blessed Sacrament Church, 207 W. Euclid Blvd, West Point, VA 23181.

Tribute Wall

GT

“ I did not know Mr. Tokarz. In addition to many achievements during his lifetime, he also was an artist, capturing landscapes, rural buildings, boats and seascapes. Some time ago I was fortunate to find a picture of his, which now is on my living room wall. It is a snow scene and very pretty. Wish I had known Mr. Tokarz.

Gloria B. Tulip - December 12, 2017 at 11:36 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Ray's passing. I saw him here at Goldfingers whenever his watch battery died and he was so funny and pleasant. I'm sure he is happy to be reunited with his lovely bride. He missed her so much. God Bless! Carrie Conklin

Carrie Conklin - March 03, 2015 at 10:34 AM

MC

“ To the Tokarz family: The love of your father and mother lives on in West Point. Ray always made everyone feel very special and I loved seeing him when I went to get my hair done. All the precious memories of your dad will bring you ROSES IN DECEMBER! In Christian Love, Marianna and Bob Chestnutt

marianna chestnutt - February 17, 2015 at 09:56 AM

MD

“ Mary & Bobby Davis lit a candle in memory of Raymond Michael Tokarz



Mary & Bobby Davis - February 13, 2015 at 09:52 AM

RR

“ Growing up with Ray and Harriet next door as family always seemed right and natural. We grew up in that six house neighborhood on Magnolia Drive with lots of love and adult supervision from all. Ray was a hero for me as I grew up, with his military service in WWII; I was so impressed with his rank of Captain and his smart uniform and Corps of Engineer insignia. He and Dad were first cousins and best friends, sharing family picnics, kielbasa making, family stories, Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, steamed crabs, fishing, and careers at the pulp & paper mill. After Dad died in 1999, Ray quietly kept watch over our Mom from across his fence; a great source of comfort and assurance for us. Steaming oysters at Christmas was a special tradition with Ray and our family, another example of what made us family. We were always entertained with the teasing repartee between Ray and my brother-in-law, Mike. We grieve Ray's departure from our lives, but we remember him with love and gratitude for the man, the warrior, the citizen, the faithful servant of God, the historian, and the caring "elder" of our family that he was. We also find joy knowing that he and Harriet are now together again for all eternity. Michael, Donna, Andrea -- be assured of our prayers for your comfort and solace. We grieve as family with you all.
Love, Robert & Sonia

Robert Ryczak - February 13, 2015 at 08:55 AM

MC

“ West Point has lost a true Virginia Gentleman, a wonderful person and an amazing town citizen. Raymond was more than just a next door neighbor, he was "family" who shared life's events and celebrations for 57+ years with my parents Stanley & Virginia Ryczak and their children. He was so friendly to everyone, very involved in church and civic activities and had such a contagious laugh. He is with his sweetheart Harriet again. We will miss Ray so very much. Our deepest sympathy to Michael & Donna, and Andrea.
Love, Maryann Ryczak Casterline and Bill Casterline

Maryann R. Casterline - February 13, 2015 at 07:50 AM



“ Truly Beloved Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raymond Michael Tokarz.



February 12, 2015 at 11:57 AM

JW

“ A true gentleman that will be missed. Always had a smile and a kind word. May good memories help his family and friends.

Janie Wampler - February 12, 2015 at 08:26 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Raymond Michael Tokarz.



February 10, 2015 at 06:31 PM