



Miles Jordan Evans

July 11, 1916 - July 11, 2010

Miles Jordan Evans, 94, an old US Navy sailor returned to port on July 11, 2010 at Knoxville Hospital in Knoxville. Jordan was born on October 18, 1915 in Knoxville, Iowa to Arlington Jordan and Jessie (Merritt) Evans. He graduated from Knoxville High School in 1933. That summer he worked at Bob Eaton's east side drugstore and lifeguarded at Ashworth Pool. It was there later that he met a lovely swimmer, Frances Ellen Howard, the daughter of a prominent Des Moines attorney. They married on September 7, 1940. In 1934 he joined the US Navy, where he served four years in the Pacific Fleet with tours to China and the Far East. He was stationed in the South Pacific and saw duty both on ship and in island hospitals. As a commensurate story teller he often retold his own version of "Tales of the South Pacific". On the USS Goldstar he was in charge of turning gold jewelry into stars and performing ear piercings for sailors crossing the equator. After discharge from the Navy in 1938, as a pharmacist's mate 2nd class, he returned to Pharmacy school at the University of Iowa and then had a mortuary apprenticeship from 1941 to 1942. He reenlisted in the Navy with the advent of WWII and served once again in the Pacific and completed service in 1945. Jordan returned to Iowa after the war and went on to St. Louis where he graduated from Mortuary School in 1946. He joined the family firm, Evans Funeral Home and Ambulance Service, along with his father and brother. He was a licensed mortician, and an ambulance driver. He also helped run their Evans Decorating store, laying linoleum and selling wallpaper and paint in

Knoxville. He had an exemplary career in his home town serving on many boards and committees, as well as being elected multiple times as the last non-medical county coroner. He was a lifetime member of the American Legion and VFW. He was the recipient of the Community Service Award and was a member of the local Masonic Lodge and also a Shriner. He was a past president of the Knoxville Rotary Club and responsible for making the sauce for the yearly chicken barbeque. After marriage he was a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, singing in the choir for many years. In retirement years Jordan and Frances moved to Laurie, MO on Lake of the Ozarks where they attended the Ozark Chapel Methodist Church and enjoyed many terrific friends and neighbors. They returned to Knoxville and lived together in assisted living and nursing center until her death in 2003. He then moved back to his own home and lived independently until having a much delayed knee replacement. On his last day on this earth he got up and walked, straight up and down, the way he wanted to be, with his head held high. He always put other people first and even when in pain or disability took the time to be concerned about those around him. He was known as a truly good man.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife on September 7, 2003, a brother Jack Maxwell Evans, and a sister Elizabeth Williams (100). He is survived by a daughter, Joy Patterson of Honolulu HI, and two sons Mark Jordan Evans (Melissa Salas) of Las Vegas NV, and John Scott Evans (Janet) of Knoxville, and many wonderful grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services will be held at 4:30 P.M., Friday, July 16th, at the Winfield-Evans-McCleery Funeral Home, with Rev. Robert DeYoung officiating. Burial with military rites will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, July 17th, at the Pleasantville Cemetery in Pleasantville.

Visitation for Jordan will be held from 4:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M., Thursday, July 15th, at the Winfield-Evans-McCleery Funeral Home in Knoxville. Jordan's family will be present from 6:00-8:00 P.M., Thursday evening at the funeral

home. Masonic rites will be held at 7:00 P.M.

A memorial has been established to the Knoxville Heritage Foundation.

Tribute Wall



“ *Miles Jordan Evans*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Miles Jordan Evans*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I am so sorry to just find out about Jordan's passing. I don't get much news from Knoxville anymore. When I graduated High School Jordan put me the EMT school and hired me to work taking ambulance trips. I loved doing it. Jordan was the most respectful and kindest man I have ever knew. I so envied his children as he loved them very much and he was like a Father to me. After his retirement and when he moved to Missouri I lost contact with him until he moved back to Knoxville. Life is so busy anymore I kept saying I needed to call him but time passed. I am sorry. Jordan was a great man and my heart goes out to his children. God Bless.*

Sherri Breckenridge - Monroe, IA - Friend - October 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Will doing a bit of family genealogy search I came upon this obit of Miles Jordan Evans.

Miles Jordan was my great-great grandfather.

When I was young, we would spend the summer's on my cousin Janice and her father Ellis Dyer's farm in Pleasantville. I remember going to Knoxville and playing with the Evans cousins...most likely Scott and Mark.

I remember your father being very kind to put up with our shenanigans.

My sympathy to your families. He was indeed a great man and from what I've heard and read, very much like his namesake.

Best regards,

Duncan Spalti Engler

San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico

Duncan Spalti Engler - October 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ Dear Joy and Evans family-

Although we did not personally know your Dad, you often spoke of him with love and respect, with humor and concern, that we feel we knew him through you. Our heart goes out to you in this time of losing, when that empty space he left is being now filled with those many memories and fleeting moments you shared that will keep coming to you. As you go through this next year, events and holidays and the routine of your life will bring him back to you.

Embrace those moments and remember him, not with sorrow, but with love and gratitude, for the days and years you lived your lives together. God bless and keep you.

Francisco and Paula Smith and family - July 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Dear Evans Family,
Our heart goes out to you as you celebrate the life of a truly wonderful man. Uncle Jordan was often a rock in our times of needs and made us smile even during the most difficult times. I can say for my family that Uncle Jordan blessed us with his smile and wit every time we got together. His puzzles and sense of honor stay with us even now. God Bless you all as you morn his passing,
Rhonda D. (McGuire) Dyer

Rhonda D. (McGuire) Dyer - July 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ What a wonderful, excitement-filled life your father lived! I have pleasant memories of both parents from church. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Kristen Kennedy - July 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Jordan was a great man, with a great family, who lived a great life. We should all be so fortunate to be remembered so fondly. Our prayers will be with you all.

Terry McGuire - July 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Remembering back to the days when I sometimes worked with Jordan. Like the night we responded to an auto accident. The car was on top of the person. A bunch of us younger guys lifted the car up and Jordon pulled the person away and started mouth to mouth immediately. But, it was to late.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Evans Family.

Terry & Cindy Massick - July 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Lisa and I send our condolences to the Evans Family. Your family is in our prayers.

Joseph Danielson - July 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Jordan was a much respected part of our childhood. He and our dad, Harlan Plum, both Navy veterans, were good friends. Thinking of you all, Plummy and Rose's Kids

Martha and John Popson - July 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ CONDOLENCES TO YOU, SCOTT AND TO ALL OF JORDAN'S FAMILY. IT IS NEVER EASY TO SAY GOOD BYE.

CHRISTA PHILLIPS HALL - July 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Truly sorry for your loss.
He was a fun guy.

Kayla Davis - July 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM