



Arthur Byron Dodge,

April 19, 2013

Arthur Byron Dodge, Jr. passed away at the age of 89 on Thursday, April 18th, 2013 at his home surrounded by his wife Gretel and two sons, Arthur B. Dodge III and Andrew N. Dodge. He was a patriot, husband, father and philanthropist.

Born 13 June 1923, Arthur was the son of Arthur B. Dodge and Marion Cochran Dodge. Arthur was the last of four sons and the first to be born at the General Hospital. His brothers Richard, William and James all preceded him in death. The family resided on East Orange Street where Arthur was raised not far from St. James Church. A member of the original Orange Street gang, Arthur regaled family and friends with stories of Lancaster in the 1920's and 30's that sounded like episodes of "The Little Rascals."

Arthur attended East Junior High School (now Edward Hand) and one semester in high school at the newly opened J.P. McCaskey before his parents decided that he was becoming too 'socialist' and sent him off to boarding school at St. Andrews in Middletown, DE. Arthur flourished at St. Andrew's, winning the Headmaster's Prize in English and rowing varsity crew. In Arthur's senior year, St. Andrew's crew won the New England championships and defeated the Princeton 8 Freshman crew. Arthur attended Williams College as a member of the Class of '45. Renowned up and down the East Coast for his voracious appetite for laughter and good company,

Arthur once hitchhiked from Lancaster to Philadelphia in a tuxedo to attend a debutante party.

Arthur enlisted in 1942 in the U.S. Army as a private, foregoing officer's training school. After boot camp in Texas, Arthur's Company, the 88th Infantry (Blue Devils), sailed for North Africa. Landing in Tangier, Morocco, Arthur campaigned through North Africa and Sicily before landing on Anzio Beach in Italy. Arthur led the first American troops to enter Rome during the war and received a Papal audience. During the 18-month Italian campaign, Arthur received numerous decorations including two Battlefield Commissions to the rank of Captain, two purple hearts, two bronze stars, one with clusters, and a distinguished service medal. He was also nominated for the US Congressional Medal of Honor and, though not a recipient, was occasionally invited to attend US Medal of Honor Award events.

After the war, Arthur completed his education, graduating from Franklin & Marshall College in 1948. Arthur joined his father and oldest brother Richard in that year, beginning a more than 50-year career in the cork industry. An active Army Reservist, Arthur was called back to active duty during the Korean War serving under General Strickler while stationed at the US Army Headquarters, Europe in Heidelberg, Germany. It was there that he met Margaretha Gerbert (Gretel). Arthur would say that courting Gretel was his second and most difficult European campaign. They married in December 1954.

Arthur's professional career was interlaced with his deep commitment to his family, the community and giving back. Among his many activities and passions, Arthur served as President of the Cork Institute of America and an active member of the Newcomen Society, Sons of the American Revolution, the Pennsylvania Society, and the American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM). In addition, Arthur was past President of SOS Children's Villages

USA and the 88th Infantry Division Association where Arthur was appointed by President Bush to attend the 50th Anniversary of D-Day. Arthur also served as a trustee of St. Andrew's School and was active in the vestry and leadership of St. James Church. Arthur was also a director of the Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Arthur joined Dodge Cork Company in 1948, eventually succeeding his father and brother Richard as Chairman and President. In 1989, Dodge Cork formed a joint venture to become Dodge-Regupol, which Arthur continued to lead as Chairman until his retirement in 2007. Today, Dodge-Regupol is known as Ecore International Inc., North America's largest manufacturer of recycled rubber products.

Arthur was loved for who he was: a very bright, creative, curious, witty, devout, dashing, and lovable human being. He loved casual conversation on virtually any topic.

Arthur is survived by his wife, Gretel; his two sons: Arthur B. Dodge III, husband of Justina Juvonen-Dodge, and Andrew N. Dodge, husband of Lorraine Dodge, both of Lancaster; his grandchildren: Marc and Natalie, Southampton and New York City, NY; Emilie, Harbor Island, Bahamas; Alexandra, Sabrina and Hayden Dodge of Lancaster; and Camilla and Sloane Grover-Dodge of Lancaster.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Funeral Service with a Requiem Mass on Friday, April 26, at 10:30 a.m. at Saint James Episcopal Church, 119 N. Duke Street, Lancaster, PA, with The Reverend David W. Peck, Celebrant, and The Very Reverend Peter D. Eaton, Preacher. The family will greet friends from 9:30 a.m. until time of service. Private family interment in Lancaster Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made

in Arthur's name to Saint James Episcopal Church, 119 North Duke Street,
Lancaster, PA 17602, or Hospice & Community Care, PO Box 4125,
Lancaster, PA 17604-4125 (www.hospicecommunity.org).

Tribute Wall



“ Arthur Byron Dodge,

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ Art Dodge and Family - it was so sad to hear of your father's passing Art. Your Dad was simply bigger than life. I can still hear him say "my son, my son" to you. I have the most wonderful memories of both your father and your mom who I hope is doing as well as can be expected. I just want you to know that I'm thinking about you and my heart is sadden by your loss.

Mike Hayes - May 01, 2013 at 02:12 PM



“ Dear Gretel, Art and Andrew, It is with the deepest sadness that I extend my sympathy to you for your loss. Arthur was one in a million , a humble member of the greatest generation , a businessman with the heart of a poet. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a zest for life that was contagious. My fondest memories of Arthur are sitting at the table in your kitchen drinking Valley Forge beer and eating german pretzles while being regaled with stories, jokes, puns and many wonderful life lessons. The Dodge family welcomed this cazy Greek Hoosier with open arms and I will never forget that kindness. Although time and space have separated us over the years they cannot dim my affection for Arthur and the entire Dodge family. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time as we grieve for the loss of a very special man yet we celebrate a life well lived.

God bless you all.

Your Friend Always,

Gregory D. Nichols

Gregory D. Nichols - April 24, 2013 at 11:02 AM

CD

“ Arthur Dodge was like a second father to me. It was a pleasure to work for him.

Clyde Diffendall - April 20, 2013 at 05:25 PM

JR

“ Dodge family, My condolences for the passing of Arthur. It was my pleasure to have known Arthur and to have worked at the company for many years.

Jim Romanos - April 20, 2013 at 10:22 AM