



Lewis T. Gemmill,

July 16, 2013

Lewis Thomas Gemmill, Sr., 98, of Lancaster, PA, died at his residence Monday, July 15, 2013. He was the son of the late Thomas Zachariah and Susan Mae Hitchens Gemmill.

Lewis entered this world March 27, 1915 on the dining room table in Wilmington, Delaware. His church and family were always important parts of his life. In his youth, he participated in the church choir in Wilmington in order to attend summer camp sponsored by the Du Pont family.

Coming to maturity in the time of the Great Depression, he postponed his education to provide for the care of his mother and sister. His athletic ability drew scholarship offers in football from Ohio State, Temple, and Penn. He declined the offers in order to care for his disabled father and Depression-era family.

Lew graduated from Drexel Institute of Technology Evening College with a degree in Chemical Engineering. Before World War II, he worked in the chemical industry in California. He enlisted in the Marines and served in the occupation of Japan. After the war, he returned to the East Coast and continued his career. Lew was for many years a salesman for the DuPont Corporation selling pigments to the paint, paper and manufacturing industries in the Mid-Atlantic states and Puerto Rico. He was a leader and President of

trade organizations important to his industry. He retired in 1978.

Wherever he lived, membership and participation in church life was important. He served as a Eucharistic minister, vestryman, and other leadership roles. The best remembrances of Lew are his sharp wit which continued through the very end of his life. Lew was lovingly cared for in his final year by his family and personal caregiver, Julia Ruff. His greatest joy was being able to continue to attend church on a regular basis.

Lew was first married in July 1941 to Marjorie Eleanor Witsil; together they had five children. Eleanor died in 1972. Lew was then married to Orlie Taylor Glick from 1973 until her death in 2002. In 2005, Lew married Esther Good Holder, who died in 2011.

In addition to his wives, Lew was predeceased by his daughter, Alice Lamont, son Roger Gemmill, and stepdaughter Marianna Gipe. He is survived by a large, extended family including daughter Marilyn Gerriets of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and sons L. Thomas Gemmill, Jr., husband of Valerie, of Lancaster, and Wayne Gemmill, husband of Betsy, of Cockeysville, MD. Also surviving are stepchildren Frank Glick, David Glick, Gretchen Matthews, and Pat Lowe; 8 grandchildren; 9 step-grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Lew's Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, July 20, 2013 at Saint James Episcopal Church, 119 North Duke Street, Lancaster, with the Reverend Barbara Seras officiating. The family will receive friends in the Chapel at Saint James before the service starting at 10:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes memorials to be directed to Saint James Church, 119 N. Duke St., Lancaster, PA 17602.

Interment will be in the Saint James Church Memorial Garden.

Tribute Wall



“ *Lewis T. Gemmill,*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Tom & Valerie: I was on vacation when your father's death occurred. I am only now learning about it. I was so sorry to hear of Lewis' passing. He was a wonderful, gentle man who always had a smile on his face and left one on mine. His sheer charm and energy will be greatly missed by many in Lancaster.*

Harvey Owen & Michael P. Powell

Harvey Owen - July 23, 2013 at 03:48 PM



“ *Sorry to read of your father's passing. Although I did not know him, as I would walk by on my way to Communion on Saturday, it was easy to see that he enjoyed his time in the Church and was appreciating the service.*

Take Care.

Pat and Scott Oberholtzer

Scott & Pat Oberholtzer - July 19, 2013 at 03:59 PM

DS

“ To one of the finest gentlemen my wife and I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Rest in peace, Marine. Hopefully our paths will cross again in the not too distant future. Respectfully, Dick and Jan Shurtleff

Comment by Dick and Jan Shurtleff

Dick and Jan Shurtleff - July 17, 2013 at 05:52 PM

DS

“ To one of the finest gentleman my wife and I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Rest in peace Marine. Hopefully our paths will cross again in the not too distance future. Respectfully, Dick and Jan Shurtleff

Dick and Jan Shurtleff - July 17, 2013 at 05:50 PM