



Ferry G. Schoonover

November 24, 1921 - April 9, 2008

SCHOONOVER, Ferry G. age 86, formerly of Utica and Almont, died Wednesday, April 9, 2008, after a short illness. He was born November 24, 1921, in Utica, Michigan. Mr. Schoonover resided in Utica for 52 years, moving to Almont, and later to Beaverton and Dade City, Florida. His current residence was Villa Rica, Georgia. He served in the 35th Division as a radio operator from 1942 to 1945 during WWII and proudly fought in Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe. Upon his return, he farmed the family land in Utica and was employed at the General Motors Tech Center for 30 years. He came from a family of nine children. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Genella nee Colburn; children: Jo Doug Fogleman, Gary Schoonover, Jan George Parker, Rich Kathy Schoonover, Jim Candy Schoonover, and Paul Mike Schoonover; 16 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; five brothers and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, April 19, 2008 at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road 3 blks east of VanDyke Utica, with a luncheon immediately following at the New Hope United Methodist Church, 5324 VanDyke, Shelby Township. Interment will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, Michigan. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to the 35th Division Museum Fund; 35th Division Association, P.O. Box 5004, Topeka, Kansas 66605.

Tribute Wall

RS

“Dad, as I think of you, memories of the past fill my mind . . . Sundays afternoons watching either a Shirley Temple or WWII movie. always preferring the WWII movies, of course . . . Hitting your Sunday newspaper as you were trying to read it, hoping to get a reaction. - But rarely getting one. . . Wrestling Mike L. and I in the yard and taking care of us with little effort. . . . The pride you showed in your eyes, and the smile on your face when taking Gordy to look for deer in Beaverton. . . . Andrew and Kay eating all your strawberryÆs in Florida. . . . Sitting at my kitchen table just talking to Frank. You always seemed to be at your very best, when you were surrounded by family and kids! Dad, you are my idol, my hero. You are the most remarkable man I have ever known! You loved your family, your country, and life itself. You are the most remarkable man I have ever known! You will be missed more than I can express!

Rich Schoonover - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KS

“You welcomed me into your family with open arms and a loving heart. Along with mom, you made me feel as if I had always been a member of the family. When I think of you, I will always remember . . . sliced bananas with breakfast in the morning; our remarkable adventures at the Army Reunions; your mischievous grin; the pocket of your t-shirt full of important things; looking forward to your daily e-mails; you and mom holding hands while you watched TV; the best darn dice partner I ever had! I love you and will miss you with all my heart.

Kathy Schoonover - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ We only met you a few years ago but we feel like we are part of your family. we will miss you

Jackie & Leo Backes family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ we are with you in spirit, share your loss, rejoice for the blessings recieved by being a part of Ferry's life, and believe the world is a better place because of him.

Jessica and Lecil Colburn - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ We love you, and we'll miss you grampa

Trenton Schoonover - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ You will be missed throughout this world. Your friends go for many generations and although only one of us met you, I felt as though I knew you. Papa Frank loved you like a brother and, he was so envious that you could grow rhubarb and he could not. Goodbye our friend, we know Papa will greet you with his 'goofy' smile and you two will talk for hours. Maybe Mary will cook you a country meal as she was so famous.

Larry & Judy Bailey 'Frank" family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I met Ferry because of a letter that came to my Dad a few years ago and I wrote to him and we have been e-mail pals eversince. I feel that the world has lost a wonderful person and I know that his family has lost a great person. I would like to express my sympathy to all of his friends and family.

Joyce E. Daniello - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Even thou we could not be there in person we were in spirit. To the chlidren-You had as fine a person for a father as has ever been and have every right to be proud. To my sister and sister in law- we know you have lost a part of you and that you will miss Ferry greatly for that we are sorry but you carry with you some of the best memory that any could wish to have of a loving husband and a kind and generous man. We love you.

Euel and Lilla Belle Colburn - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ I met Ferry at the 35th Division reunion at El Paso. We had a good and long time to chat in the lobby of the hotel as we waited for others to get back from their tours. He was very interested and compasionate about my father's death in WWII and about the activities of the WWII Orphans' Network, Inc. He knew of neighbor children whose father was in the 35th Division and was killed. He was determined to find out what had happened to them and learn if he could assist them in anyway. We began our correspondence than and last year, he was happy to tell me he had located the brothers. He began to work with them to obtain their father's medals and history. During the years we corresponded, he frequently sent me uplighting or patriotic thoughts. I did not know him very well, but know the division reunions will be lacking a smiling face. I am sure the family will miss him sorely. Paula Evans Baker in Norman, OK

Paula Evans Baker - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Although I hadn't seen Ferry in 60 years, I remember him well from the time he lived at 19 Mile and Ryan. He contacted me this past summer inquiring about my father who was in the same regiment and killed in France in WW11. Ferry very kindly furnished me with information about the 137th as well as other info during our subsequent e-mail and phone conversations. He will be greatly missed.

Jack &Bev Conner - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ He is my father in-law, the grand father of my 3 children, and the father of my husband, Jim. He was a quiet man, but get him to talk about politics, his WWII experiences, gardening, his family history, and many other topics, he would talk your ear off!! But you always left with new knowledge. He was my email buddy!!! I will miss him , but the legacy he's left behind will never be forgotten. I am sure he is in heaven talking with old buddies and telling the heavens all about his life here . We have lost a great man but heaven has gained a special angel.

Candy Schoonover - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Dad, Words will never express how I feel. I always assumed you would be here forever. I hope you can hear me when I talk to you. There are so many things I wish I could of said to you. You were the most incredible person I have ever met and I am so glad you were my Dad, I love you so much and miss you beyond words.

Paul - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *My grandpa is a hero to myself and others! He will be missed yet his memories will live in us forever!! One thing he once said was this: "Be thankful for the country that we live in, all of our family, and the men & women who are serving in the armed forces!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" He sure was proud of this country and I am proud of him.*

Courtney Schoonover - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *We will all miss our grandpa very much. He was a prime example of what a man should strive to be. We will all find comfort in each other because we have one of the strongest families EVER.*

Cassie Schoonover - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM