



Ralph E. Ebersole

June 17, 1925 - July 26, 2019

Ralph E. Ebersole, 94, formerly of Bainbridge, passed away on Friday, July 26, 2019 at Elmcroft Senior Living in Reading. Born in Bainbridge, he was the son of the late Reuben and Florence (Youtz) Ebersole. Ralph was the husband of the late Jean L. (Bishop) Ebersole who passed away on January 30, 2008.

Ralph was a graduate of Bainbridge High School class of 1942. He proudly served in the United States Navy during WWII from 1942-1946 with the Naval Radio Station (RM3) in Butjo Lang Island, Papua New Guinea, part of the Admiral of the Islands. A Free and Accepted Mason, Ralph was a member of the Ashara-Casiphia Lodge, No. 551 of Mount Joy. He was President of Ebersole Brothers which specialized in rendering top white tallow and sold to Proctor and Gamble as a main client. A respected member of the National Rendering association he was chosen to represent the United States Agricultural Department to serve as an ambassador for China to assess the country's rendering process. He was then selected by Albrecht-Nell Rendering Equipment to assist Japan in upgrading to their equipment and work closely with Japan's main engineers. Later he sold his business to Moyer Packing Company and he continued to consult as an expert in his industry until recent years.

During his retirement years he enjoyed traveling with his wife and

grandchildren whom he loved dearly. In recent years he was fulfilled watching his great-grandchildren's sport and school activities. He participated yearly in the Veteran's Day tributes at schools and in the Bainbridge parade. He was a philanthropist to the American Legion instrumental in creating the monument at Bainbridge Cemetery in memory of all those who served from Conoy Township during WWII. He was a member of American Legion Posts Conewago and Elizabethtown in addition to the VFW in Elizabethtown, PA. He also greatly enjoyed clocks of all kinds.

Ralph is survived by two children, Dr. Thomas Ebersole, husband of Jeanne of Reading and Barbara Klein, wife of William of Reading; six granddaughters, two step-granddaughters; thirteen great grandchildren; and a brother, James Ebersole, husband of Betty of Lancaster.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Richard, Glenn, Donald and John Ebersole; and two sisters, Geraldine Flowers and Hazel Byron.

A funeral service honoring Ralph's life will be held at the Masonic Villages Sell Chapel, 200 Freemason Drive, Elizabethtown on Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 11AM. Family and friends will be received at the Sheetz Funeral Home, 16 East Main Street, Mount Joy on Wednesday, July 31, 2019 from 6 PM to 8 PM and again on Thursday at the Sell Chapel from 9:30 AM to 11 AM. Interment will follow the service at Bainbridge Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Animal Rescue League of Berks County, 58 Kennel Rd, Birdsboro, PA 19508.

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I am a photographer in Elizabethtown and I met Ralph last September when he knocked on my door to ask if I could take a photo for him, because he needed one to send to a WWII event he was going to (I believe in California!). I grabbed my camera and we went outside, snapped a few photos and chatted for awhile. He was so dear, and I enjoyed our conversation. I told him I would mail him the prints he needed and he wanted to know what he owed, I told him it was on the house and thanked him for his service to our country. He didn't really like that idea, but I convinced him..... or at least I thought. After he received the prints he called and left me a message and pleaded for me to call him back to let him know what he owed... I still have the message on my phone. I, of course, call him back and he, of course, convinced me to let him pay. I also still have the hand-written note he mailed with his check. I was so sad to see his obituary in the paper, but am so honored the photo used here was the one we took that day. I only knew Ralph for a brief time, but he definitely touched my heart and I know he will be missed greatly by everyone who knew him. xo

Jamie Schoenberger - August 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I just saw Ralph's Obituary in the paper and am so sorry I missed his funeral services. I am a photographer in Elizabethtown and Ralph knocked on my door one day last September and asked if I could take a photo of him because he needed a nice picture for a WWII event he was going to attend (and I believe he said he was going to be going to California!). I normally schedule appointments in advance, but he was such a dear man I decided to just grab my camera and we went outside and snapped a few photos. We talked for quite awhile and then I thanked him for his service to our country and told him there would be no charge, and that I would mail him the prints he needed. He wasn't very comfortable with that but I insisted, and thought I had him convinced. Well was I wrong. After he received the prints he called me to thank me and said he really wanted to pay me something, so I finally gave in. He mailed me a check and a hand written note that I still have, he also left me a voice message to thank me again and I also still have that on my phone. I feel honored that the photo used here is the one we took that day. Ralph was only in my life briefly, but I could see what an honorable, hard-working, loving man he was and I know he will be missed greatly by all who knew him. xo

Jamie Schoenberger - August 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Uncle Ralph would check in with me from time to time. Some Good conversations with him. I'm sure his absence will be felt.

Brenda Wagner - August 01, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ Suzanne and I send our deepest sympathy to all of your great family and friends.

Tom Thomas - July 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *I would like to send my sympathy to the Ebersole family. What a wonderful, full life Mr. Ebersole had.*

Meridith Gaskins - July 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ *My condolences to the Ebersole family. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Dr. Kenya F. Ayers - July 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *To Ebersole family I would like send my sympathy to you. Ralph was one of my long time customers. IT was always to talk to him.*

Jay m. Forry statrim barber shop - July 28, 2019 at 12:00 AM

VR

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Ralph.. He was a delightful, smart and sometimes sassy old coot that I would see at breakfast in the mornings at the old Clearview Diner, where my former Mother-in-Law, Cas Lawrence worked. It usually would be Ralph, Kenny, Wally Broucht, just to name a few at the counter for breakfast. Oh what conversations we would get into, from hunting to fishing to politics...Ralph was such a delight to spend time with at the diner along with these other guys and of course, having them harass myself and Cas was also a special treat because we both knew exactly how to handle ourselves with these guys. Over the years you learn how to manage or you will sink...Smiling here... All I can say is I always went to work feeling happy and it made my day to start out with these folks. Now today the last one has gone to Heaven to join the others and I am a bit jealous as they will continue the party without me. But I will meet them again someday and we will have a wonderful reunion on the streets of gold... R.I.P. Ralph Ebersole...You will be missed by me and so many...! Thanks for the laughs over the years...!

Vicki Lawrence Radle - July 28, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ My brother was a great person who loved his son, daughter and all his grandchildren as well as the other family relatives. He was loved and respected by his relatives, many friends and business associates. Truly a Patriotic and generous man who will be missed by me and many others.

Jim Ebersole - July 28, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ My Uncle Ralph will be missed greatly . A Father figure to me in loss of my Dad . Plus he was a awesome baker of his classic cherry an peach pies . He passed those recipes onto me !

Mark Reuben Ebersole - July 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM