



Alfred J. Bartkowski

June 12, 1923 - March 23, 2011

Alfred J. Bartkowski, hero, devoted husband, loving father and adored grandfather passed away on March 23, 2011, in Bismarck in the arms of his wife and daughters. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday at 11:30 AM at Church of St. Anne with Rev. Ed Wehner officiating. Burial will be held at the ND Veterans Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday from 4:00 - 8:00 PM at Eastgate Funeral Service where a Knights of Columbus Rosary and vigil service will begin at 7:00 PM. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. Alfred was born on June 12, 1923, in Courtenay, ND, to Jacob and Katherine Stachlowski Bartkowski. He attended country school in Durham Township and Courtenay High School. In October 1943, Alfred left home, much to the dismay of his mother, to join the Marines. His basic training took place at Camp Elliot in California. Serving with the 1st Marine Division-K Company, Alfred saw action in the South Pacific in the Battle of Peleliu which had the highest casualty rate of any battle in the Pacific War and has been called the bitterest battle of the war for the Marines. Alfred was awarded the Silver Star Medal and the Purple Heart "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity...in action against the enemy on Peleliu Island". His citation reads "His daring example of heroism, indomitable fighting spirit and unswerving devotion to duty were an inspiration to his comrades." After recovering from multiple wounds suffered in the Battle of Peleliu, he was deployed to Okinawa where he served for 45 days before sustaining another wound which resulted in his hospitalization in Hawaii and his return to the mainland. He was

honorably discharged on December 7, 1945. Following his military service, Alfred attended Milwaukee School of Engineering, graduating in 1947 and Moler Barber College in Fargo from which he graduated in 1948. He did his barber apprenticeship in Hillsboro under the guidance of Arnie Schornack and earned his master license in 1950. On January 5, 1949, in the midst of a snowstorm, Alfred married the love of his life Avis Wright. In 1950, they moved to Linton where he was the sole proprietor of Al's Barber Shop. In 1955, he was recruited by T. Clem Casey to move to Bismarck and open a barber shop in the Arrowhead Plaza Shopping Center, which he owned and operated until his retirement in 1987. After retiring, he and Avis traveled extensively throughout the United States with their Alaska trip being one of the most memorable. Alfred was an avid hunter and fisherman, enjoying many trips to Canada with family and friends. Active in church and community, Alfred was a charter member of St. Anne's Catholic Church serving on the parish council and as chairman of the finance committee. He was a troop leader for St. Anne's Boy Scout Troop 120 and a member of the American Legion, VFW, DAV, AmVets, Knights of Columbus, and past president of the North Dakota Barber's Association. Alfred is survived by his wife of 62 years, Avis; his son, William Colette Edina, MN; his daughters, Kay Kenneth Vogel, Bismarck, ND, and Carol Jeffrey Fallon, Rochester, MN; eight grandchildren, Joshua and Jason Vogel, Kathryn, Patrick and Ryan Fallon, Sarah Bartkowski, and Mitchell and Logan Drews; one sister, Irma Mandler of Brooklyn Park, MN; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers; six sisters; and his son, Thomas, in 2005.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Avis and family, My thoughts and prayers are with you. I will always have fond memories of Alfred and his warm and generous personality. He will be missed.*

Joan Bartkowski - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *I remember well when Alfred was wounded. His sister anne and I were roomates in Montana but I don't have any idea what is going on in their lives. When we were kids we used to visit on Sunday afternoons in Courtenay. God bless and I will remember him and the family in my prayers. it has been a long time dorothy Phillips*

dorothy phillipsgurski - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ *Carol, My thoughts and prayers go out to you, your mother, and your family. Blessings on all. Peter*

Peter Gleich - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ *Hey Carol and family--I know I have not seen you in many, many years. My thoughts go out to you and your family during this difficult time. Sorry to hear of your loss.*

Terri Leupp Wilhelm - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Dear Avis, we are so sorry to learn of Al's passing. Al was a wonderful man who left many treasured memories to a wealth of friends. A gift has been given to Open Door Community Center in his memory.

Jerry & Jean Newborg - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Avis, Kay and family; So sorry for the loss of your husband, father & grandfather. He was a wonderful, loving man. It shows in the the family he leaves behind. Our prayers and thoughts are with you. God Bless You All With Deepest Sympathy; Tracy & GloriaFarstadWest

Tracy & Gloria West - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LZ

“ Avis, Kay and family, Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family after the loss of Al. We were friends with Avis and Al for many years and had a lot of good times together. We especially remember our fishing trip to Canada when both families got together for a whole week.

Lorraine and Lori Zentner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ Kay and family, My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family after the loss of Al. I am glad that I had a chance to see Al and Avis last year. I remember the fishing trip to Canada and the many Boy Scout campouts and outings with your Dad. He was always a great help to the boys with a great sense of humour. On our 50 mile hike at Glacier National Park, I still remember how Al patiently untangled my fishing reel for me when we were fishing for trout after a day of hiking. He was a very kind-hearted man and one of many positive role models I had when growing up.

Mark Zentner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Thoughts and prays are with your family and sorry to hear about the loss. Sandra Balvitsch & Family

Sandra Balvitsch - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Bill and family, I was sorry to read of Alfred's passing. I did not know him on a personal level but from what I have read he was a good man. A good husband, father and soldier; a good man from the greatest generation. May he rest in peace. Don

Don Bauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ My heart goes out to you all as do my thoughts and prayers. I often take a drive by the old apt we lived in next to you and my memory takes me back to those awesome times with you all. I remember yrs later someone telling me of this Awesome barber and I was able to say--Yes and I had the honor of living next to him and his family and they were all that way AWESOME! may your memories sustain you untill the glorius day when we will all be together again! God Bless!

Julie Harry Hoiby-Kuhn - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM