



## Ernest J. Heinmuller

February 25, 1921 - December 5, 2015

Ernest Jean Heinmuller of Easton, MD, son of Ernest Richard and Angeline Magne Heinmuller, passed away on Saturday, December 4, 2015. Born on February 25, 1921, in Baltimore, Mr. Heinmuller moved to Easton in 1926 and began school in the building that is now the Academy of the Arts. He graduated from Easton High School in 1938 and graduated from St. Johns College, Annapolis, in 1942, as a member of the first class to complete the Great Books curriculum.

In 1943, Ernie married Donna Hoyt, his high school sweetheart. Discharged from the Navy as an Ensign for medical reasons, he then applied for a second commission as Ensign in the U.S. Coast Guard and was assigned to the CGC 329, an 83 footer, as Commanding Officer. He served in three theaters of WWII as a submarine hunter off the US coast, troop rescue in the English Channel during the invasion of Normandy, and other assignments in the South Pacific. His ship was awarded the Coast Guard Outstanding Service medal with star and the Defense medal with star.

At the end of WWII, Ernie and his wife returned to Easton. He opened an office for Monroe Systems for Business (Div. of Litton Ind,) and was its manager and head of sales for the next 28 years.

In addition to this work, Mr. Heinmuller was active in the community and his

church. He served as a Board Member of the Delmarva Boy Scouts, coach of the first Rotary Little League baseball team, and he was one of the founders of the Talbot County Youth Football Program. Ernie was a board member and treasurer of Bethany House. In 1976, he chaired the Easton Bicentennial Celebration and organized a parade and numerous lectures that spanned the complete year. This activity led to his interest in local government, and he ran for and won a seat on the Easton Town Council. He served three terms as councilperson of the Fourth Ward. During those terms he served as a board member liaison to the Easton Volunteer Fire Department and as the Easton Council representative to the Neighborhood Service Center. He then served as President of the Neighborhood Service Center for two years. Through 2009-2011, he served as a non-resident member of the Londonderry Board of Directors. In 2009, he was appointed, by the County Council, to the Commission to Study Recycling. Also Mr. Heinmuller was a life-member of the Easton Elks Lodge.

During his many years at Christ Episcopal Church in Easton, Ernie served as a vestryman six times and was chairman of fundraising for the rebuilding of the Parish Hall and Day School after the fire of 1954. He and his wife were very active as teachers in the church's Christian Education programs. In 2006, Ernie was commissioned by the church as a St. Stephen's Minister. He served in this outreach program until 2014.

Mr. Heinmuller was a published writer of poetry. He enjoyed painting in oils and won prizes in juried art shows. Ernie was a member of the Academy of the Arts and studied under Betty Ruhl and Jim Plumm.

Mr. Heinmuller is survived by his son, H. Hoyt Heinmuller and wife Linda of Alamo, TX; his daughter Jodie Peirce and husband Jeff of Chapel Hill, NC; four granddaughters Dee Heinmuller, Lynn Heinmuller Fisher, Shayn Peirce Cottler, and Leyf Peirce Starling. Ernie has eight great-grandchildren and two

great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Heinmuller was preceded in death by his wife, Donna Hoyt Heinmuller, who died in 1990, and his daughter, Frances Dee Heinmuller, who died in 1954.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2015, from 6-8 p.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 200 S. Harrison St., Easton. Services will be held Friday, December 11, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. at Christ Church in Easton, 111 S. Harrison St., Easton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be sent to the Neighborhood Service Center, 126 Port Street, Easton, or Saint Stephen's Ministry at Christ Church – Easton.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Memorial Park

11365 Ocean Gateway  
Easton, MD 21601

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

DEC 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Easton Location  
200 S Harrison St  
Easton, MD 21601  
(410) 822-3131  
[info@fhfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@fhfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ernest J. Heinmuller*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Ernest J. Heinmuller*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Hoyt.*

**Sandra Mosley** - December 11, 2015 at 08:09 PM



“ *Robin Nash lit a candle in memory of Ernest J. Heinmuller*



**Robin Nash** - December 10, 2015 at 09:36 AM



*I'm very sorry to hear of your loss, Hoyt. My thoughts are with you.*

**Robin Nash** - December 10, 2015 at 09:37 AM



*Hoyt, I met your dad one time, but it was memorable. I see where you got your spirit and humor. What a blessing to have him as a role model! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

**Sheleen Schiera** - December 14, 2015 at 04:26 PM

EW

“ *Eldridge W. Willey lit a candle in memory of Ernest J. Heinmuller*



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**Eldridge W. Willey** - December 09, 2015 at 11:36 PM

PF

“Ernie was *THE* mainstay of Christ Episcopal Church in Easton. Appearing every Sunday, flawlessly attired, he had a kind word and warm greeting for all present. His "Ernie Dogs", a barely edible concoction of hot dogs and other things, were the centerpiece of every church picnic. He wrote poems, one of which became an anthem known as "Ernie's Song." He was the only one who would answer Father Bill back when references to his age occurred in the sermon, besting him every time. Others in the church could certainly add to this very limited list of his contributions.



*Our families became linked before I was born when my mother and Ernie's wife Donna became roommates at what was then Salisbury State Teachers College. After serving his country in WWII, Ernie became an important member of the Easton community. When we moved to Easton in the 1950s, the Heinmullers were one of the first to welcome us.*

*Ernie was always interested in the community. He served on the Town Council, later to be followed in that position by his son, Hoyt. He never lost interest in the political affairs of the area, and often shared his thoughts with me during my time on the County Council. His letters to the editor were always direct, and when I would see his name at the bottom I would always take the time to read what he had to say. In short, someone like this is always missed by those who knew him and by those who benefited from his many contributions.*

*His was a life well lived.*

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**Phil Foster** - December 06, 2015 at 03:42 PM

GN

*Ernie and I have friends for many years, having been Lions Club members and. recently, almost weekly, lunch mates, with others. A lot of wisdom is lost with his passing.*

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**grant northrop** - December 07, 2015 at 08:22 AM

DG

*From the moment I met Ernie, I knew having him as a friend was a privilege. He told me about his WWII experiences, I was so proud of him, and deeply humbled to get to know his private thoughts about his service. My uncle parachuted into St. Lo, and sustained a broken ankle, while he was recuperating there, Ernie's sub chaser, free of its active combat duties, rescued hundreds of soldiers who never got to the beach. Many survived with the help of Ernie and his crew.*

*He told me about the big plans his committee developed for Christ Church in the 50s, and how the usual differences of opinion and divergent views of the future "torpedoed" them. (I was in high school then). He told me about his collection of tie tacks (I'll bet many reading this don't have theirs anymore--I do), and often gave my wife Jan or me a little booklet of his creative work. He greeted us and everyone else as if he had nothing better to do than spend some serious, face-to-face quiet time together, with no hurry to move on.*

*During Church services, he would always say "The Peace of the Lord be with you THIS DAY". Very special--unique to him.*

*The local chapter of the Navy League had a special dinner program earlier this year about D-Day. We were looking for speakers with first-hand knowledge. I asked Ernie if he'd like to speak, and he responded immediately--YES! (I asked him if he'd like me to drive him to the event, and he politely declined.) His presentation was riveting, and everyone obviously was very glad to hear what he had to say. What a privilege to hear from a man who'd been there and done so much to help the invasion begin the end of that terrible war.*

*I'm honored to have been his friend. For me, that's one of my most important blessings in life.*

*Others will offer their different recollections, but these are only some of mine.*

*It seems fitting to post the words of the Navy Hymn here:*

*The original words are:*

*Verse 1: Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!*

*Verse 2: O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard  
And hushed their raging at Thy word,*

*Who walked'st on the foaming deep,  
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!*

*Verse 3: Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood  
Upon the chaos dark and rude,  
And bid its angry tumult cease,  
And give, for wild confusion, peace;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!*

*Verse 4: O Trinity of love and power!  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.*

*Ernie, we love you and will miss you. We hope you will find smooth seas on your next voyage, and that it will be boundlessly pleasant and eternally rewarding.*

*Dick and Jan Gnospelius*

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**Dick and Jan Gnospelius** - December 07, 2015 at 03:07 PM

LP

*Sorry to learn of his passing. We went to the same college, St. John's in Annapolis and had several great conversations.*

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**louisa parkinson** - December 08, 2015 at 08:54 PM