



John R. Wismer

July 30, 2007

Col. John R. Wismer, U.S. Marine Corps (ret) died on Monday, July 30, 2007 at Memorial Hospital at Easton. He was 90.

Born January 19, 1917 in Minneapolis, MN, he was the son of the late Karl R. and Lillian Opstad Wismer. He was a graduate of Trenton High School, Trenton MI and Western Michigan University. In 1941 he joined the U.S. Marine Corps. During World War II he was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his participation in the Solomon Islands Campaign. He saw action at Guadalcanal, Rendova, Munda, Eniwetok, and Quajaline. After his release from active duty, he remained in the Marine Corps Reserve until retiring with the rank of Colonel in 1969.

Col. Wismer joined the Rolex Watch Company after the war, where he was one of the pioneers who made Rolex the respected brand that it is today in the United States. He retired in 1985 after 30 years of service.

He was a member of the Church of The Holy Trinity, Oxford, MD, a member of the Marine Corps League and Coast Guard Auxiliary #45. For over 50 years he enjoyed wood working in his spare time. He also studied military history, collected military miniatures and enjoyed reading.

Col. Wismer is survived by his wife, the former Lola Leach, whom he married

December 9, 1944; two children, Stephen Wismer and his wife Linda, and Deborah Armitage and her husband Bob; five grandchildren, Aimee Stanley and her husband Christopher, Emily Armitage, James Wismer, Jennifer Wismer, and Stephen Wismer, Jr. and his wife Colleen; and two great-grandchildren, Logan Wismer and Rianna Wismer. He was predeceased by a sister, Audrey Wismer Palmgren.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2007 at 11:00 AM at the Church of The Holy Trinity, Oxford, MD.

Private burial, with full military honors, will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Marine Military Academy, Institutional Advancement, 320 Iwo Jimo Blvd., Harlington, TX 78550.

Arrangements are by Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home, P.A., Easton, MD.

Tribute Wall



“ *John R. Wismer*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *John R. Wismer*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *John R. Wismer*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM