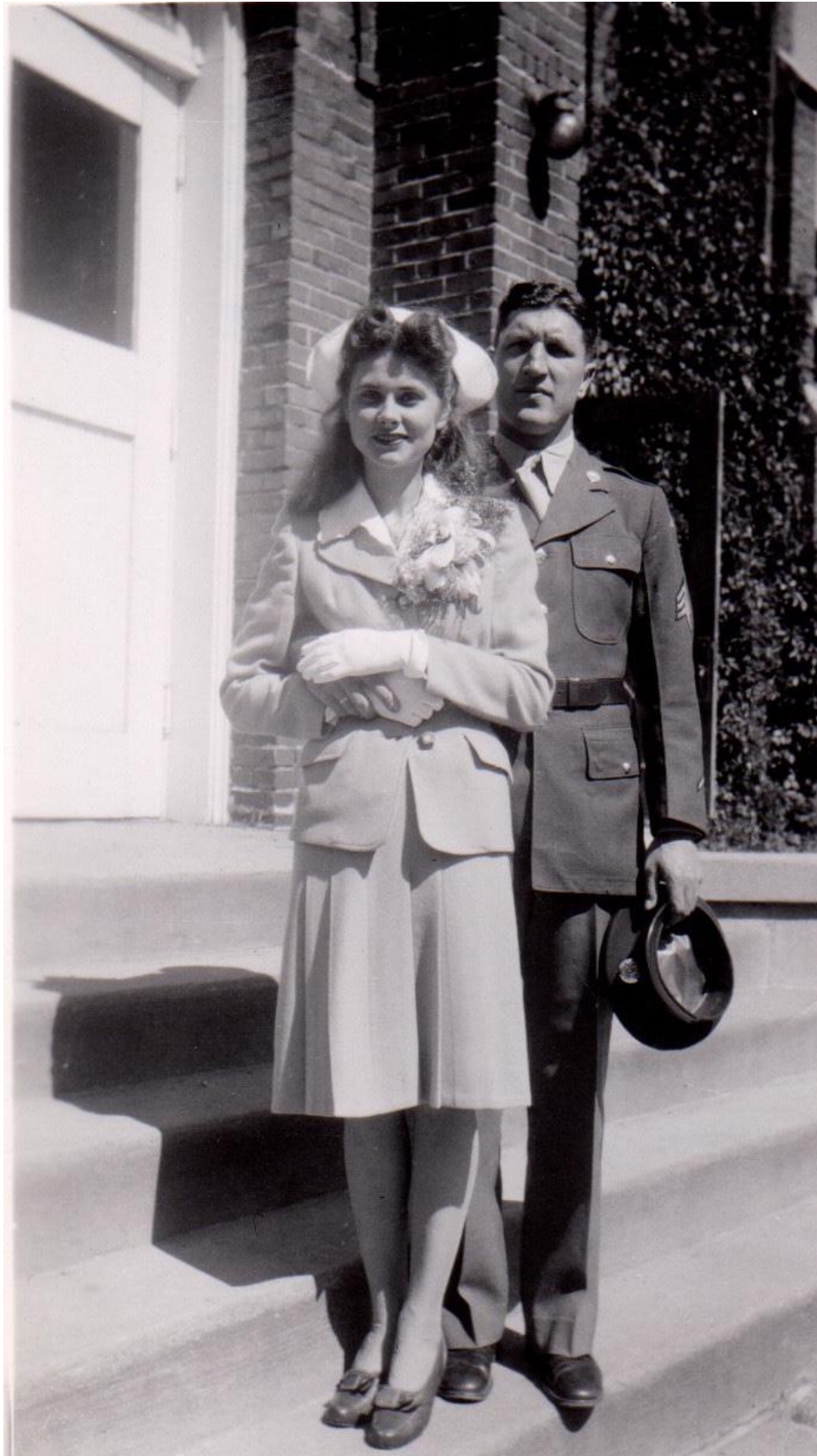


PFC Robert W. “Hoop” Mugerauer

Location - West-A: R34, C29





A veteran of the battles of Ardennes, the Rhineland and central Europe, Pfc. Robert W. Mugerauer, 54 Josslyn avenue, had the American defense service ribbon, the European-African ribbon with three bronze battle stars, the overseas service bar and one service stripe.

Oshkosh man made mark as a firefighter

'Hoop' Mugerauer was passionate about golf, owned course for 31 years

BY DOUG ZELLMER
of The Northwestern

Robert "Hoop" Mugerauer Sr., is remembered as a good firefighter and a man with a passion for golf.

Mugerauer, 94, of Oshkosh, died on Aug. 7. He was a firefighter in his working days with more than 25 years of service with the Oshkosh Fire Department.

"He was an excellent fireman. He knew his job and he got along with everybody," said Ray Luther, a retired firefighter who worked with Mugerauer at the fire department. "They called him 'Hoop' quite a bit. That's what they knew him by."

Mugerauer's son, Steve Mugerauer, said his dad's nickname was passed on from his dad's father, who was also called "Hoop."

LIVES TO Remember

Continuing series of tributes to people who left a mark on the community

He said many old-timers on the south side of Oshkosh had a nickname.

"It was custom at the time that just about everyone knew people by their nicknames," Mugerauer said.

Mugerauer said his father built and operated a driving range and nine-hole par three golf course on Highway 21 about a quarter mile west of Highway 41. It lasted 31 years, but the business closed after Highway 21 was widened to four lanes from Highway 41 to Leonard Point Road.

Mugerauer enjoyed playing golf.

"Bob was a lot better than average at golf," Luther said.

Retired firefighter Alton Ziebell said he started working with Mugerauer in 1946.

"Bob was always a nice, friendly smiling guy,"

Ziebell said. "He had a jolly attitude all the time."

He said Mugerauer was a good mentor for younger firefighters.

"He would always guide them and to make sure they did the right things," Ziebell said.

He recalled a meal at the fire station when Mugerauer gave him some advice on potato dumplings that were served to the firefighters.

"I kind of turned my nose up at it," Ziebell said. "Hoop noticed that and said to me, 'You don't like those?' I told him they were too dry. Bob said the secret is to cut them up and to put a lot of gravy on them. I did that and I was a lover of potato dumplings from that day on."

Steve Mugerauer said he learned an important life lesson from his father.

"Nothing is as bad as it seems and nothing is as good as it seems," he said.

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ROBERT W MUGERAUER

US ARMY

WORLD WAR II

MAR 18 1914



AUG 7 2008

Robert W. 'Hoop' Mugerauer Sr.

Robert W. "Hoop" Mugerauer Sr., age 94, of Oshkosh, passed away on Thursday evening, August 7, 2008 at Evergreen Retirement Community. He was born on March 18, 1914 in Oshkosh, a son of the late William and Mary (Demler) Mugerauer. He honorably served his country during WWII in the US Army. Robert married the former Viola V. Stietz on July 1, 1945. She preceded him in death on February 23, 2007. He was a longtime member of St. John Catholic Church in Oshkosh and had worked for and retired from the City of Oshkosh Fire Department after over 25 years of service. Bob was the builder and proprietor of the Oshkosh Par 3 Driving Range and Golf Course. He greatly enjoyed golf, hunting, was active in his community and also enjoyed time spent with his family and friends. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

His memory will be cherished by two sons, Robert W. Mugerauer Jr. of Seattle, Washington and Steven (Velda) Mugerauer of Oshkosh; a daughter, Nola Zernzach of Greenville, Wisconsin; a brother, Herbert Mugerauer of Oshkosh; grand-



children,
Troy (Carrie)
Zernzach,
Timothy and

Erica Zernzach and Rebecca (Montana) Stewart. He is further survived by three grandchildren, Tyler Zernzach; Sophia and Dakota Stewart; numerous step-grandchildren, other relatives and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Vi and a brother, Arthur and a great-grandson Hunter Zernzach.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Robert on Monday, August 11, 2008 at 1 p.m. at St. Jude Parish (St. John Church), 434 W. South Park Avenue in Oshkosh with the Reverend Fr. William Van De Kreeke as celebrant. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. A time of visitation and support will be held for the Mugerauer family at the church on Monday from 11 a.m. until the time of Mass. A memorial fund will be established. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the:

Fiss & Bills-Poklasny
Funeral Homes
Oshkosh
(920) 235-1170