

Colonel Gordon W. Vacura, D.V.M., 94, of Bella Vista, Arkansas passed away on September 5, 2012 at Northwest Medical Center in Bentonville, Arkansas. He was born on March 26, 1918 in Jackson, Minnesota, son of Joseph and Mary Vacura.

He graduated from Jackson High School in 1936, attended the University of Minnesota and Kansas State University, graduating with a [Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine](#) in 1943. He was united in marriage to Mary Alberta Wainscott in 1944. They spent the next thirty years in the military serving in Yugoslavia, Japan, Okinawa and Korea. Dr. Vacura retired from the military as Curator of the National Medical Museum. Upon retirement, Dr. Vacura accepted an appointment as Chief of Meat Inspection for the state of Maryland until 1988 when he relocated to Bella Vista, Arkansas.

Dr. Vacura is preceded in death by his wife, Alberta; parents, Joseph and Mary; brothers, Rudolph and Harold; sisters, Helen Betlach, Alice Palmer and Gladys Olson.

He is survived by his long time companion, Ilale Hunt and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 8, 2012 at the Bella Vista Funeral Home Chapel. Burial with full military honors will take place in Jackson, Minnesota.