

Sherman Wesley Clark, 94, of Bella Vista, Ark., formerly of Bloomington, died on Jan. 17, 2012.

His funeral will be at noon Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012, at St. Mary's Church, Bloomington, with the Rev. Ric Schneider officiating, where military rites will be accorded by the Bloomington-Normal American Legion Honor Guard.

He will be buried next to his wife in Park Hill Cemetery, Bloomington. Visitation will be for one hour prior to services Saturday at the church.

Memorials may be made to American Legion Post 56 in Bloomington. Carmody-Flynn Williamsburg Funeral Home, Bloomington, is in charge of arrangements.

Sherman was born on July 5, 1917, in Ladysmith, Wis., to Thomas and Eliza (Gallagher) Clark of Grant Center. He graduated from Ladysmith High School in 1935, where he was the senior class president. He spent 3 and 1/2 years as a forestry clerk in the Civilian Conservation Corps in three Wisconsin camps, the last being Camp Rusk near Glen Flora, Wis.

Sherman entered the military service in 1940 and remained in the military for 24 years, retiring from the U.S. Air Force as a lieutenant colonel in September 1964.

He married Katherine J. Hendricks of Ladysmith, Wis., on March 3, 1943, in Miami Beach, Fla. They lived in many places in the United States, in Okinawa and Puerto Rico, during his career as both an enlisted man in the infantry of the U.S. Army and as a commissioned officer in the Air Force. While in the Infantry, Sherman served in Iceland during WWII and later in the Army of Occupation in Korea. His career in the military was spent performing duties in personnel and legal services. Following his retirement from the Air Force, he worked as a civilian employee for the Air Force Communication Service as a personnel planner for 12 years and fully retiring in 1977.

Sherman and his wife, Katherine, moved to Rogers, Ark., to enjoy many years of retirement. He was an avid bass fisherman and active in the senior bowling league. Sherman acted as a guide for fishing on Beaver Lake, Ark. He was a member of the Retired Officers Association, Knights of Columbus and a lifetime member of the American Legion.

He was preceded in death by his parents, seven brothers, three sisters and his loving wife of 66 years.

Survivors are his five children, Connie (Bob) Horenkamp of Bloomington, Ill., Hank (Kathy) Clark of Kansas City, Kan., Dave (Linda) Clark of Bella Vista, Ark., Susan (Scott) Baker of Jacksonville, Fla., and Mary Ainsworth of Viera, Fla.; his nine grandchildren, Lorreine (Horenkamp) DiCamillo, Thomas Horenkamp, Paul Clark, Marissa Horenkamp, Andrea Cooper, Annie Clark, Jacob Johnson, Chad Ainsworth and Ryan Clark; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Sherman's wit, sense of humor and passion for life will be missed by all.