



Frank Brobson Lutz

October 4, 1911 - December 21, 2011

Frank Brobson Lutz, son of Dr. Frank Eugene Lutz and Martha Ellen Brobson Lutz, was born in Spangler, PA on October 4, 1911. He died on December 21st two months after his 100th birthday celebration. As a young boy in Ramsey, N.J. he enjoyed going on walks and exploring the woods around his home. He accompanied his father to Estes Park, Colorado, on a field trip expedition sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History. He and his family spent several summers establishing the nation's first self-guided nature trail at Harriman State Park in Tuxedo, NY. Frank attended the Ramsey public schools and continued his education at Phillips Exeter Academy. He graduated from Brown University with a major in chemistry in 1933. He moved to Millville, NJ where he worked in the textile industry until he enlisted in the United States Navy during World War II. He was a Lieutenant when he met his future wife Nell, a WAVE stationed in Portsmouth, Va. They were married on August 22, 1945, and lived in New Jersey until they relocated to Athens, AL in 1952. Frank was employed by the Chemstrand Corporation (later Monsanto and Solutia) for 25 years as a textile chemist in charge of applications research including the development of Astroturf. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Athens where he served as an elder, deacon, and trustee and was active in the local church camp program for many years. Having inherited a love of nature from his father who was a pioneer in the field of entomology, Frank enjoyed educating others about the wonders of nature. He shared his vast knowledge through exhibits he designed, hands-on-

instruction, and leading hikers through the Bankhead National Forest. He was an avid supporter of the Boy Scouts of America, served as scoutmaster and merit badge advisor, and was a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award. Frank was a Mason and served as a past Master of the Shekinah Lodge in Millville, NJ. He was also a member of the North Alabama chapter of the National Audubon Society. He served as the honorary Grand Marshall of the 2010 Veterans Day parade and was the oldest living WWII veteran in Limestone County. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters Anne Lutz of Ramsey, NJ, Laura Robb of Phoenixville, PA and his grandson Drew Whitten of Athens, Al. Surviving him are his wife Nell, his sons Dr. Brobson Lutz of New Orleans, Tom Lutz (Beverly) of Mt. Juliet, TN and his daughter Ruth Whitten (David) of Athens. He is also survived by his older sister Eleanor Schurman of Baldwinville, NY, grandsons Philip Lutz(Natalie), Dave Whitten (Kanthi), and Daniel Whitten and granddaughter Carley Lutz. Great-grandsons are Keegan and Gibson Lutz. Memorial services will be Friday, December 23rd at 2pm at the First Presbyterian Church, Athens, Alabama. Visitation will follow the service. The family asks that in lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church, the Alabama Veterans Museum, or Boy Scout Troop 240.

Tribute Wall

ER

“ *Mr. Lutz was an inspiration and role model to all scouts. I am glad to have had him for my scoutmaster.*

Edwin Ricks - December 25, 2011 at 06:12 PM

KM

“ *WE are so sorry to hear about MR. Lutz. our prayers are with the family.*

Kevin & Sandy Middendorf - December 24, 2011 at 08:40 AM

AR

“ *Chemstrand 1955*

A. Leo Rowe - December 23, 2011 at 12:25 PM

KG

“ *So sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Kris and Howard Gibbons - December 22, 2011 at 07:23 PM

BG

“ *Nell, Kathy and I are so very sad to learn of Frank's passing. Ed called us this morning with the news. Frank was blessed with a long and very meaningful life before God called him.*

Bob & Kathy Gaines - December 22, 2011 at 04:15 PM

DL

“ *Nell, Ruth, Tom and Brobson, You are all in my thoughts. Frank was such a wonderful person to know and I have many fond memories of our families.*

David Langley - December 22, 2011 at 01:29 PM

PS

“ *Your family is in my prayiers.*

Pat Hardy Smith - December 22, 2011 at 12:47 PM

MS

“ *Mr. Lutz was one of my favorite people. Few people make truely lasting impressions on us but Mr. Lutz and his family will always have a place in my heart. Heaven is an even better place right now and will certainly have a new inspirational resident, building the camp fire and getting things ready for the rest of us.....God bless you!*

Michael Shaw - December 22, 2011 at 11:01 AM

MS

“ *You are all in my thoughts and prayers. I know you have many wonderful memories of such an outstanding dad.*

Mary Ellen Kennemer Snodgrass - December 22, 2011 at 10:07 AM

BT

“ *My first job and first supervisor at Chemstrand was a very kind, sweet man. I have fond memories, and my condolences to the family in your loss. He was a jewel!*

Beverly Ross Turner - December 22, 2011 at 09:11 AM