



VOGEL, ANDREW H 'BUD'

Andrew H. "Bud" Vogel, age 86, was taken by the Lord peacefully in his sleep on Thursday, February 24, 2011. Mr. Vogel is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Evelyn (Van Drunen) Vogel. He was a favorite uncle of many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Dick and Minnie (Pals) Vogel; and four sisters: Dena Schepel, Minnie Paarlberg, Anne De Graff, and Carol Tazelaar.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 3, 2011 from 3:00-8:00 p.m. at Smits Funeral Home, 649 E. 162nd Street, South Holland, IL. A celebration of his life and witness to the Resurrection will take place on Friday, March 4, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Christian Reformed Church, 16248 South Park Ave., South Holland, IL. Interment will be in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Lansing, IL. Pastor Bernard Tol is the officiating minister. Letters from Associate Pastor Bassam Madany and former pastors John Van Ryn and Richard Blauw will be read. Organists participating in the service are William DeYoung, Justin Rich, and David Wickerham; Eleanor Vander Giessen, pianist. Besides the spoken words, the congregation will join in hymns of praise and thanksgiving. Bud was born in South Holland, IL on April 19, 1924 and lived there his entire life.

He was a graduate of Calvin Christian Grade School in South Holland and Thornton Township High School in Harvey.

Before being drafted into the Army during WWII, Bud was a pre-med student at the University of Chicago. After induction, he was assigned to the Army Specialized Training School at Kalamazoo College, MI for intensive study to be an engineer. One month before completion, the program was dropped and the cadets were reassigned to the infantry. Bud's three years of military service took him to several army camps; the last of which was Camp Pendleton near San Diego, CA where he had marine training in preparation for combat in the Pacific.

Bud and Evelyn were married on June 14, 1944 on his last furlough before going overseas. He was shipped out three weeks later. They were separated for a year and a half. Bud participated in the Douglas MacArthur invasion on Leyte, Philippines on October 20, 1944 with the 96th Infantry Division. After the Islands were secure, the forces regrouped and prepared for the next invasion on Okinawa, Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945. 82 days of bitter combat followed.

Bud returned home on February 9, 1946. All through grade school and high school, Bud had taken piano and organ lessons. His music education continued after his discharge from the Army at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago and Northwestern University in Evanston. Bud loved his Savior and used his musical talent and training working for God's Kingdom. The first time Bud played the organ in his home church, First Christian Reformed Church, South Holland was in 1938 - age 14. His last service as First CRC organist was February 13, 2011. This span of 73 years encompassed his position there as head organist and choir director. Throughout these years, he gave private piano and organ lessons to hundreds of students in the studios in his home, Vogel Music House. Many of Bud's students have continued his work as church musicians. During his professional career, Mr. Vogel also served as Organist and/or Choir Director at Thorn Creek Reformed Church, South Holland (33 years); Bethany Reformed Church, Roseland (10 years); and First Reformed Church, Lansing. He was regularly invited as guest organist to organ dedications throughout the Chicago area. Bud accompanied the Illiana Oratorio Society's Messiah concerts for 55 years. Including playing his own graduation, Calvin Christian School's graduations had Bud at the organ for 50 years. Evelyn and Bud were the piano/organ duo at the week-long Christian Reformed Bible Conferences held annually at Cedar Lake, IN; 50 conferences were blessed by their music. Bud's organ playing inspired uncounted weddings, anniversaries, funerals and hymnsings. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Cedar Lake Ministries, P.O. Box 665, Cedar Lake, IN 46303; The Bible League, 3801 Eagle Nest Drive, Crete, IL 60417; or Calvin Christian School, 528 East 161st Place, South Holland, IL. More information at (708) 333-7000 or www.smitsfuneralhomes.com.