

Wagner, Paul John 1913 - 2009

Akron Beacon Journal – November 12, 2009

Paul J. Wagner, 96, owner and operator of Wagner Cycle & Hardware for 40 years, passed away on Veterans Day November 11, 2009.

Born on June 26, 1913 in Akron to Philip and Anna Schafer Wagner, he was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Mildred Lucas Wagner, David S. Flory (son-in-law), Elizabeth Flory Duff (granddaughter).

Paul is survived by his four children, Ann Marie Flory, of Vandalia, Laura Davis (Jerry) of Akron, Irene Lawrence (Dave) Wadsworth, Paul J. Wagner II (Barb) of Stow; 10 grandchildren: Mark Davis of Las Vegas, Amy Wehinger (Mike) of Frederick, Md., Carl Davis of San Diego, Paul Flory (Hillary) of Circleville, Ellen Fifarek (Aaron) of Kettering, Monica Frank (Jeff) of Wilson, N.C., Curtis Lawrence (Heather) of Wadsworth, David Lawrence (Kerry) of Charlotte, N.C., Jill Dowey (Drew) of Norfolk, Va., and Brian Wagner of Stow; five great-grandchildren Adam, Gabrielle, Caroline, Allison and William.

Paul grew up working in his family business (The Century Cycle Co. at 198 S. Main St.) He excelled in athletics at West High and Buchtel High School making All-City Teams in wrestling and football.

Paul was a Sgt. in the U.S. Army in World War II. He served with the 83rd Infantry Div. 330th Regiment Co. H. Sgt. Wagner started his training with the U.S. Army at Camp Atterbury, Indiana; later Tennessee Maneuvers; and then at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky. Paul saw action at the Normandy, Ardennes-Bulge, Brittany, Rhineland and Central Europe Campaigns. Additional battles included St. Malo and the Hurtgen Forest.

'Distinguishing himself by heroic achievement,' he was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Oak Leaf Cluster. 'His bravery and leadership was an inspiration to the men with whom he served and his actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces.'

Paul enjoyed bowling and sponsored his St. Sebastian bowling team. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, DAV, VFW.

In 2006, Paul was able to make the trip to Camp Atterbury, Indiana for the 60th WWII Reunion. At age 94, Paul attended the 61st Army Reunion in Washington, D.C. and visited the WWII Memorial with his family.

We would like to thank the staff of The Ohio Veterans Home of Sandusky for the excellent care of our Dad. Your expert care greatly extended the quality of his life.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 14, 2009, at St. Sebastian Catholic Church, 476 Mull Ave., Akron, where procession will begin. Interment at Greenlawn Memorial Park. The family suggests memorials be made to The Ohio Veterans Home, 3416 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44881, or CYO and Community Services (Camperships) 812 Biruta Street, Akron, OH 44307