



Melvin D. Westbrook

September 2, 1922 - December 22, 2014

MELVIN D. WESTBROOK
SEP. 2, 1922-DEC. 22, 2014

Melvin “Mel” Westbrook, of Turlock, was born into a farming family in Genoa, NE. He died at age 92 on Dec. 22.

Mel moved to Turlock in 1940 where he worked as a carpenter for H. A. Hubbard. During WWII he joined the US Army Air Corps, and as a B-24 pilot he flew 35 missions over Europe “on the books” and two OSS missions “off the books.”

He was proud of his country and of his crew, only one (Richard Chapdelaine) of whom now survives him. Richard was a Tail Gunner who Mel considered to be the brother he never had. Mel loved to tell war stories and his family heard them almost daily. One of his favorite expressions was, “I got a million of ‘em!” Mel was an excellent carpenter, and after working all day he spent evenings and weekends building the house he and his wife, Barbara, shared together for over 50 years. Other hidden talents included his penchant for growing the best Stockton red onions, snowmobiling, playing guitar, a huge love of the outdoors, hunting (he was an excellent marksman) and fishing, and dancing. Mel also loved his friends and community, where he involved himself in activities all over town. He was an active member of the Turlock Kiwanis Club, VFW and American Legion. He assisted in delivering pumpkins to local elementary schools, ushered at the fair, made enchiladas with the Soroptomist

Club, and worked with the Arrowhead Club.

He had a smile and handshake for everyone, and as a member of the “greatest generation” he will be missed.

Mel is survived by his wife, Betty Westbrook, son Chris (Sheila) Westbrook, daughter Anne (Jim) Walls, step-children Byron, Joyce, Mark, and Dwight Anderson, Kari Doo, and one grandchild. His first wife, Barbara Westbrook, and son Kevin Westbrook, preceded him in death.

A visitation will be held at Turlock Funeral Home on Fri., Jan. 2, from 3 to 7 p.m., with funeral services to be conducted at the same location on Sat., Jan. 3, at 1 p.m. Private interment will take place at Turlock Memorial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to VFW, 1405 E. Linwood Ave., Turlock 95380 or American Legion, 75 Bothun Rd., Turlock 95380.

Tribute Wall



“ *Melvin D. Westbrook*

January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ *We will meet again Mel.
You are an honorable man!*

Daniel Perez - January 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mel was very dear to me. I was fortunate to be the flower girl in his wedding to my cousin, Barbara.
I almost never failed to visit him on my visits to Turlock.
May Betty, Chris, Sheila, Ann & you all know thanksgiving for his life and love. I do!
Love, Carol Jean*

Carol Jean Hunt - January 03, 2015 at 12:00 AM