


Clara M. Murphy

September 15, 1918 - June 10, 2013



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 SERVICE SCHEDULE

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Life Legacy

Clara Morrey Murphy was born September 15, 1918, in Ripley, MI. She received her RN Diploma from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Hancock, MI, in September 1939.

Clara entered the Civil Service in 1941 when the United States entered World War II, and was stationed at the U.S. Marine Hospital in Detroit, MI. She immediately transferred to active duty in the Army Nurse Corps and was sworn in as a 2nd Lt. at Selfridge Field, MI, on March 7, 1942.

Early on, she volunteered for "Air Ambulance Nurse" and in December 1942, Clara was assigned to Bowman Field, where the school for Flight Nurses was being organized.

She was thereafter assigned to the 802nd medical Air Evacuation Transport Squadron, which was hurriedly activated and left Bowman Field on Christmas Day, went on to Staging areas, and they by convoy to Oran, North Africa. From there, home bases were Algiers, Tunis, Licata, Palermo, Naples, Rome, and finally Siena, where VE Day was happily celebrated. During that time, the 802nd had evacuated 122,000 patients.

The 802nd was the first group of 25 nurses to be sent overseas, where she spent two and one-half years. After the war, Clara returned to the Flight Nurse School at Randolph Field, San Antonio, TX, where she graduated in 1945, and remained on as an instructor.

She married Capt. Robert E. Murphy, of Ahmeek, MI, on April 19, 1947, in the Chapel at Randolph. Clara then separated from the ANC in August 1947, having attained the rank of Captain.

She then accompanied her husband on his varied military assignments, one of which was Johns Hopkins University, where she obtained her BS degree in Nursing in 1956.

Clara was awarded the following: Air Medal w/4 Oak Leaf Clusters; E.A.M.E. Europe Theater Ribbon w/10 Battle Stars, Army Commendation Ribbon, Meritorious Service Unit Award, American Theater Ribbon and World War II Victory Medal. Clara was a member of the following organizations for many years ~ the Women's Golf Association in San Antonio, World War II Flight Nurses Association and Air Force Nurses Association, St. Ann's Sodality of St. Louis Catholic Church in Castroville, TX, Johns Hopkins Alumni Association and Brooks Heritage Foundation.

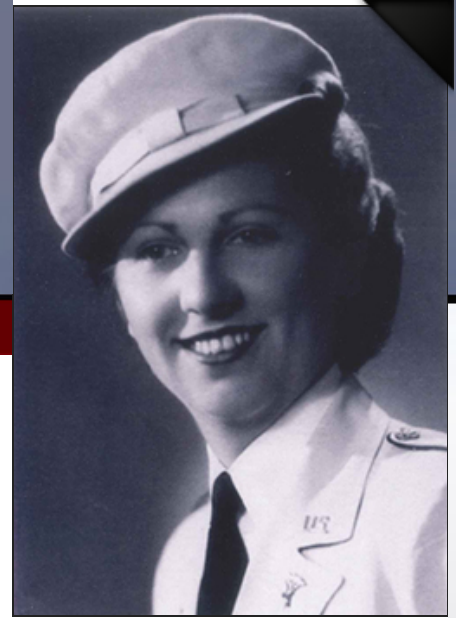


 PHOTO GALLERY

 FACTS

Born: September 15, 1918

Place of Birth: Ripley, MI

Death: June 10, 2013

Place of Death: San Antonio, TX

 MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations may be made to:
The Vista (HCC), Freedom House, and St. Louis Catholic School Scholarship Fund

This memorial provided by:
[Porter Loring Mortuary](#)

Clara and her husband, Col. Robert E. Murphy moved to AFV II in February 1987, being among the first to move into the Village. Her husband predeceased her in October 2002.

Clara Morrey Murphy is survived by her sister-in-law, Mary Murphy of Calumet, MI; nieces and nephews: Carol and Roy Mudrick, Frank and Collen Morrey, Sharen and Terry Demski, Fred and Ellen Morrey, Irene Dolman, Michelle Neihmer, Mary McIntyre, Charlotte Coleman (deceased), Barbara and Warner Iseppi, William and Mary Smith, Dennis and Carol George, Pat Metz, many great nieces and great nephews, and by her many loving friends at Air Force Village II.

To have known her was a delight, to have loved her well was a treasure and now, a loss beyond words.

GRAVESIDE SERVICE

MONDAY

JUNE 17, 2013

9:45 AM

FORT SAM HOUSTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
WITH MILITARY HONORS

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOLLOWS

2:30 PM

AIR FORCE VILLAGE II CHAPEL
5100 JOHN D. RYAN BLVD.

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