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2008 News

Claudette M. Bassler



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Claudette Mary Bassler, 100, of Wauwatosa, Wis., formerly of Dubuque, died Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008, at San Camillo Retirement Center, Wauwatosa.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at St. Mary's Catholic Church, where friends may call after 9:30 a.m. Thursday. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery, where military rites will be accorded by the American Legion Post 6. The Hoffmann Schneider Funeral Home, 1640 Main St., is in charge of arrangements.

She was born on March 9, 1907, in Harpers Ferry, Iowa, daughter of Dr. Benedict and Gertrude (Hogan) Bassler. Her family moved to Dubuque in 1922.

She graduated from Nursing School in Dubuque as a registered nurse. After serving briefly as a private duty nurse in Dubuque, she joined the Army Air Corps Nursing Service in 1941, just prior to Pearl Harbor. Claudette served in the South Pacific during World War II. After the war, she spent time with the Veterans Administration, and then rejoined the newly formed Air Force. During the Cold War, she had various stations including Japan and Germany and several stateside assignments. She retired from the military as a lieutenant colonel in 1967.

She enjoyed being a nurse and helping people, as well as traveling and experiencing the world. Claudette was a member of the Retired Officers Association and a charter member of the Women's Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Surviving are her younger sister, Geraldine Farnan, of Clear Lake, Iowa; a niece, Tori Dwyer, of Stillwater, Minn.; and four nephews, Albin Rhomberg, of Sacramento, Calif., Dr. Bernard Rhomberg, of Elm Grove, Wis., Dennis Farnan, of Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Dave Farnan, of Shelby Township, Mich.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her older sister, Bernardine Rhomberg; her fraternal twin, Dr. Claude Bassler; a niece, Elizabeth Weiderholt; and a nephew, Bill Farnan.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to St. Camillus Foundation, 10200 W. Blue Mound Road, Wauwatosa, WI 53226.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.hoffmannschneiderfuneralhomes.com.

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Claudette enjoyed your advertisement Christmas letter. Thanks! She started to slip in late Dec. and fell asleep on 1/5/08 - very peaceful.