

Hartley "Hap" Westbrook



Jan. 29, 1919 - Oct. 21, 2002

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Hartley "Hap" Westbrook, 83, of Ames, died of heart failure on Monday, Oct. 21 at Rolling Green Village in Nevada where he lived for only one week.

He was born in Letts on Jan. 29, 1919 to Benjamin Harrison and Mabel (Wagner) Westbrook. He married Augusta Jane Bower on July 29, 1942 in Bayard. He was a pilot, he served in the Army Air Corp from 1942 until he retired as a Lt. Col. in 1965. He was a member of Collegiate United Methodist Church, Ames Noon Rotary, Atlantic Elks Club, Pymosa Lodge AF and Nishna Valley Shrine. He was a volunteer fireman in Atlantic for 25 years. He was instrumental in starting the Iowa Air Guard and was to receive the Elder Statesman of Aviation Award on Oct. 21. He was inducted into the Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame in 2000, was the 1989 Airport Operator of the Year for the state of Iowa, and he started the Aviation Mechanics Program at Iowa Western Community College.

Survivors include three daughters, Diana Holden, of Ames, Judy Mewhirter, of Dallas, Texas, and Jeanne Westbrook Smith, of Ankeny; one son, Richard Westbrook, of Ames; 11 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; two sisters, Jessie Lee Butcher, of Bettendorf and Jeanette Berkley of Des Moines; four brothers, Robert, of Moline, Ill., Fredrick, of Fairfield, Donald, of Wesley, Calif. and Richard, of Letts.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jane Westbrook on Nov. 3, 2000; a son, John H. Westbrook on May 1, 1999 and a brother, Jr. Westbrook.

Visitation will be held Friday, Oct. 25 at Adams Funeral Home in Ames after 3 p.m. with family present from 6-8 p.m.

Services will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. at Collegiate United Methodist Church with Rev. Cynthia McCalmont officiating. Burial will be at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Wagner Cemetery in Letts.

Memorials may be made to Iowa Aviation Museum in Greenfield. Adams Funeral Home in Ames handled the arrangements.