



Finn Andersen Gjelsvik

May 5, 1918 - June 11, 2009

Finn A. Gjelsvik

Age: 91 years

A resident of rural Simpson, IL.

Passed away Thursday morning, June 11, 2009, at 4 AM at his home near Simpson, IL.

Finn was born May 5, 1918 in Bergen, Norway. He was the son of Elias and Nordis (Andersen) Gjelsvik.

Finn was united in marriage to Vera L. (Bradley) on November 17, 1955 in Corinth, Mississippi. She survives.

Other survivors include:

a Daughter - Sonja Detweiler, and her husband Kevin, of Jackson, MO

a Son - David Bradley Gjelsvik, and his wife Marilyn, of Golconda, IL

3 Grandchildren - Shaya Bevis, and her husband Aaron, of Mt. Vernon, IL

Jordan Detweiler, and his wife Stacy, of Cape Girardeau, MO

Faith Anne Detweiler of Jackson, MO

3 Great Grandchildren - Ethan and Riley Bevis of Mt. Vernon, IL

Jaci Detweiler of Cape Girardeau, MO

In addition to his Parents, Finn was preceded in death by

2 Sisters: Clara and Ingrid, who both lived in Norway.

Finn was a graduate of the Nykromborg High School in Bergen, Norway. He later attended the Skegnes Military Academy in Skegnes England.

During World War II, Finn served as a Matros Gunnery Instructor in the Royal Norwegian Navy from December 3, 1941 - February 18, 1946. He saw action in both the European and Pacific theaters of operation. Among the ships Finn served on were the SS Anderson, SS Balkis, SS Duala, and SS Strix. During his military service, six of the ships Finn served aboard were torpedoed in combat.

Following his honorable discharge from the Royal Norwegian Navy, Finn traveled to the United States, arriving in New York. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1956.

Finn devoted his life's work to helping delinquent boys. He was instrumental in the initial establishment of the first Boy's Camp in Illinois at Dixon Springs, where he served as Director. He held numerous jobs working with youth, including: probation officer for the Illinois Youth Commission in Chicago, Illinois; Director of the St. Francis Boy's Home in Salina, Kansas; Work Leader in the federally operated Job Corps in Hardin County Illinois; Corpsman Supervisor in Marenisco, Michigan and Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Finn was of the Christian faith. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing and gardening. Finn also enjoyed collecting coins and lighthouse figurines.

Finn enjoyed spending time with his family & friends.

A Graveside Service will be held Saturday, June 13, 2009, at 1 PM at the Gilead Cemetery near Simpson, IL. Rev. Harold Canup, Jr. and Rev. Kevin Detweiler will officiate. There will be no public visitation.

Those attending the service are asked to gather at the cemetery at approx. 12:45 PM Saturday.

Military graveside rites will be accorded by the Beggs-Gurley VFW Post 5222.

Memorials may be made to the Glendale Apostolic Church Ladies Auxiliary, RR 1 Box 234, Simpson, IL 62985.

Tribute Wall



“ *Finn Andersen Gjelsvik*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM