

Burns USA, Ret., Major Richard F.

Major Richard F. "Buck" Burns, 81, died Thursday, June 17, 2004, in Lansing. He was born August 6, 1922 in Detroit. He was a distinguished military graduate of ROTC, attended Michigan State University, BA Regular Army Commission. He was a combat veteran and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with OLC and three campaign stars. He was staged in Normandy and served with the 10th Armored Division during WWII. As a part of Patton's 3rd Army, his unit swept across Europe. He fought at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe, and during the Korean conflict at Uijongbu during 1956-57. His last command was at Fort Hood, XO/CO 1st Squadron, 1st CAV, 1st Armored Division. He retired after 23 years of service and returned to Michigan where he was in civil service from 1967-1985. He achieved an MPA degree from Western Michigan University in 1974-75. He was the former director of the Medicaid Department of Social Services for Michigan. He is survived by a son, Richard, Jr., of West Bloomfield; two daughters, Hillary C. Kamischke and her husband, Richard, of Columbus, Ohio, and Gabrielle M. Burns, of Austin, Texas; and a brother, Timothy W. Burns, of Sebewaing. He was preceded in death by his mother, Gertrude Jahr Burns; and his father, Fred R. Burns, of Detroit. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. The Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2004, at Holy Family Catholic Church, 8370 Unionville Road, Sebewaing. Fr. John Weis will officiate with burial in Blessed Virgin Mary Cemetery in Sebewaing. Visitation will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. today at the Dinkel-Juengel Funeral Home of Sebewaing, and he will lie in state at the church from 1 p.m. until the time of service on Monday. Graveside military committal service will be under the auspices of the Sebewaing American Legion Post #293 and the Sebewaing VFW Post #4115. Those preferring a memorial contribution may make one to Hospice of Lansing Residence, 3411 Stoneleigh Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48911. There also will be a memorial service at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 8, 2004, at St. John's Student Parish, MAC in East Lansing. Fr. Mark will officiate.