

## Mr. John Morris Urban

John Morris Urban entered the presence of the Lord Jesus on Thursday, Feb. 11, 2010. He had suffered for several years with Parkinson's disease.

Mr. Urban will be deeply mourned by his beloved wife of 59 years, Marvel Jane Hoke Urban; their children, Christopher C. Barnekov, Bradbury Hoke Urban, Sally Ann Urban, Janet Lee Jones and her husband, Jerry Jones; his surviving sister, Laura Anderson; and by many nieces and nephews.

Born May 6, 1923, in Vancouver, Wash., Mr. Urban was the son of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Capt. Robert E. Urban of Perry, Iowa, and Anastasia Vasilieva Baranova of Mariinsk, Russia. As a child, he lived in the Philippines, Panama, Wyoming, Washington state and California. He attended Lowell High School in San Francisco and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Fresno State College.

Mr. Urban joined the U.S. Army Air Forces in 1943 and served in North Africa and Europe during World War II. He was awarded the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

After the war, Mr. Urban dedicated 28 years of service to his country through his work for the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Naval Intelligence Support Center and the Office of Naval Intelligence. In 1962, his unit was responsible for identifying Soviet missiles based in Cuba. For this, he was awarded the U.S. Navy Award of Merit. He received several Certificates of Commendation for Outstanding Performance from the Department of the Navy.



While working at the U.S. Geological Survey, he met Marvel Jane Hoke, daughter of LeRoy and Ola Hoke of Frederick. They were married April 10, 1951.

After retirement in July 1976, the Urbans traveled the country, living in California and Florida before settling in Myrtle Beach, S.C., where they lived for 23 years. While there, Mr. Urban was a writer for the Myrtle Beach Journal, and served as a Horry County councilman. He organized, coached and played on numerous softball teams in Florida and South Carolina, and competed annually in the Senior Olympics, winning many medals. The Urbans relocated to Homewood at Crumland Farms retirement center of Frederick in July 2003.

The funeral service will take place at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at Fort Myer Post Chapel, Arlington, Va. Inurnment service with honors will immediately follow at Arlington National Cemetery. Attendees should arrive by 2:30 p.m. and bring two forms of ID.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, 1359 Broadway, Suite 1509, New York, NY 10018, or visit [PDF.org](http://PDF.org).

Arrangements are by Keeney and Basford Funeral Home, Frederick.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at [KeeneyBasford.com](http://KeeneyBasford.com).