



## Verdon Wood Dorough

June 7, 1916 - April 9, 2009

Verdon Wood ("VW") Dorough, age 92, of Russellville, Alabama passed away on Thursday, April 09, 2009. Early Thursday morning "Pop" had his own idea, as usual, deciding it was time to start a cribbage game in Heaven. He will be greatly missed by his family and by Misty, his dog, even though she never learned to play the game. The eighth and last surviving child of James "Oscie" and Frances Hassett Dorough, VW was born on June 07, 1916, in Dunnivant, Alabama. He served as president of his senior class at Leeds High School and graduated from Birmingham-Southern College in 1939, where he was a member of Theta Chi. A life-long supporter of Birmingham-Southern, the newest alumni directory arrived in the mail last week. Because the directory listed graduates by their class, VW's name appeared on the third page of the one thousand page directory. VW suspected the College wanted a contribution. After being rejected three times as a volunteer-- "for no good reason" other than he was blind in one eye and could not hear all that well --- VW was finally drafted and served with the 65th Infantry Division in the European theatre during World War II. He also reigned as ping pong champion of two different training bases. As a direct result of VW's persistence, the decorated veteran and his wife, Louise, were able to serve as hosts to the 55th reunion of the 65th Infantry Division this past September in Sheffield, the first time the event had ever been held in the State of Alabama. Following the War, VW was introduced to his future wife by mutual friends. He and Louise went dancing for the next five years. An accomplished athlete,

Louise finally learned to actually follow VW's rather inventive dance steps; they were married in 1951. Louise continued to learn over the years, allowing the couple to create one last, imaginative dance step from VW's hospital bed less than a week ago. VW spent most of his working life as manager for United States Pipe and Foundry in Birmingham and Russellville, Alabama. Also, a Master Mason, VW served various offices, including Worshipful Master. VW was even more proud of his years of service as a Scout Master for Troop 39 in Russellville. The scouts will remember him for his homemade beef stew. VW preferred the fresh salmon he got by driving the camper to Alaska in 2001 -- on his 85th birthday. VW is survived by his wife of 57 years, Louise; three children, Marti (Bill) Wayland and Byron (Sharon) Dorough, all of Signal Mountain, TN, and Grant (Melody) Dorough of Indian Trail, NC; five grandchildren, Emmie (Ty) Treadwell, Jessica (Aaron) Haluska, Mary Kate Wayland, Kristine Dorough, and Addie Dorough; one great-grandson, Frank Treadwell, who "came just in time" a host of nieces and nephews; and many, much younger friends. Always Methodist to his core, VW was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church of Russellville for the last 45 years. A service of celebration will be held there beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, 2009. Visitation at the church will begin at 10:00 a.m. The musical program will include traditional funeral dirges selected by VW, such as "This Little Light of Mine" Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family. To sign the register book and to offer private condolences to the family, go to [www.sprymemorialchapel.com](http://www.sprymemorialchapel.com).

# Tribute Wall

GN

“ I offer my condolences. Just wanted to let you know my grandparents, John and Ida Greene purchased their home in Dunnivant from Mr. Oscie and Ms Frances. My parents were Ferrell and Jewell Greene Dodgen. My Uncle John L. Dodgen was best friends with Bob Dorrrough and I took him to visit Bob in Tuscaloosa. My grandparents had eight children and I'm sure they knew all the Dorrrough children. Anyway, reading the obituary brought back memories of Dunnivant and it seems V W was a very interesting, colorful character. Again, my condolences.

Gail Dodgen Nix

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Gail Nix - April 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dear Grant,  
I know what a difficult time this is for you and your family. Your dad was such a very special man. You have so much to be thankful for. Even though I haven't talked to you in years, I feel as though time has stood still. I can remember your mom and dad as the most gentle and kind souls. I'm sure you will experience a sense of great loss, but always remember your dad still lives through you and your memories. Love to you and your family. Kim

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Kim Scruggs Franks - April 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

C1

“ Verdon Wood Dorough

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Chris Rose Troop 153 - April 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ After living across street from V.W. I have many memories to remember V.W. by. I can still see him walking to mailbox with dish towel across his shoulder or riding that John Deere lawnmower (not to mention him running over the stump!!!) It has given me great pleasure to help V.W. over the years around the house and just to have someone to visit. V.W. I will miss you so much but you can be assured I will never forget you.

*I only thank God for letting me be your neighbor all these years.*

*Anita & I will be lonesome and wish only the best for your family and will always be willing to help.*

**WE LOVE YOU V.W.  
DAN & ANITA WILLIAMS**

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**Dan Williams** - April 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM