



## **GEORGE H. BEU**

February 22, 1925 - April 6, 2009

George H. Beu of Cedar Street, Sturbridge died peacefully at his home, surrounded by family and friends after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Rita L. (née Douglas) Beu and his wife, Lynn of Spokane, Washington, Karl Beu and his wife Patricia Guilford, Vermont, his grandchildren Jeremy Beu and his wife Jan, Jessica Melvin, Beu and Devin Beu as well as his sister, Priscilla Reich, his great grandchildren and was also the brother of the late Christine Beu, Doris Hewitt and Esther Duchesneau Sturbridge. He was born at the site of the current Old Sturbridge Village on February 22, 1925 to Frank C. Beu and Jessie M. (Sheldon) Beu. In 1943 he enlisted in the Army. He served with the 464th Bomb Group in Africa and Europe during World War II. Later in life he enjoyed being with his wife and other veterans of the 464th. In February of 1947, he married the love of his life, Rita L. Beu of Connecticut. The two together built their home and raised their children on Cedar Street in Sturbridge. Mr. Beu was devoted to the Boy Scouts for many years, serving as Assistant Scoutmaster beginning in 1958 and becoming Scoutmaster from 1968 to 1976 with Troop 161. In 1975 he was awarded the Silver Scout Award for his service. Mr. Beu was a skilled and patient craftsman and contractor who owned and operated GHB Construction until passing the business to his son Karl a few short years ago. Mr. Beu was involved in the construction of countless local businesses, residences and town projects, including the town hall, town barn, and Sturbridge Post Office. He also donated his skills to the town with projects such as the Gazebo on the Sturbridge Common. George was an avid reader, an accomplished gunsmith, loved the outdoors, his garden, his shop and spending time with family and friends. He was a proud, independent, generous and gentle man who was respected and adored by many. The Beu family wishes to thank the staff and caregivers from Harrington Memorial Hospital, UMass Medical Center, Overlook Hospice and Enhanced Care for the wonderful care and attention given to their husband, father and grandfather during his last months. The family also wishes to thank the numerous friends, former scouts and others who generously offered help and support throughout his last illness. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, April 9th from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, followed by a Celebration of Life at 7:00 PM. A graveside service will be held on Friday, April 10th at 10:00 AM in North Cemetery, Maple Street, Sturbridge. All are invited. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701 or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN, 38105.