

OBITUARY

Edwin M. Tynan

Edwin M. Tynan, 86, of Hackettstown died Saturday, November 28, 2009 in Hackettstown Regional Medical Center, Hackettstown.

Born: June 12, 1923 in Hackettstown he was a son of the late Milton J. and Ida Hayes Tynan.

Personal: His wife, the former Helen M. Hayes, died April 2009.

He was the owner/operator of Tynan's Service Center, Hackettstown, for over 50 years. He was known throughout Hackettstown as the world's oldest tow truck driver.

Edwin entered the Army Air Corps in 1943; from Ft. Dix he was sent to Miami Beach for basic training, then to Amarillo, Texas where he was to be an airplane mechanic on B-17 bombers. Training continued at Chanute Field in Illinois at the Wright Engine School. He was then sent to Wendover, Utah where the 509th Composite Group was formed out of the Salt Flats. Unbeknownst to Ed at the time, General Tibbetts personally selected Ed to be part of a very important mission. As an Engine Specialist, Ed worked on two famous B-29 bombers - the Enola Gay and the Bocks Car. Wendover was known as a top secret base and Ed had no idea what was going on at the time. It was dubbed the "Silver Plate Project". Ed's group was told to remove all guns on the B-29 except for the tail gun. After the Enola Gay dropped the first bomb on Hiroshima, Ed realized he was part of history. Ed spent six years in high

school so that he could play on the football team under Coach Morrison, he was co-captain of the Hackettstown High School football and basketball teams (1941). He played semi-pro football, sponsored by the American Legion for the Hackettstown Eagles as a center and punter.

Memberships: He was a member of Tranquility United Methodist Church, exempt 50-year life member of the Hackettstown Fire Department, Tall Cedars, Masons for 50 years, American Legion for 50 years, Grand Marshall of the 2009 Hackettstown Memorial Day parade.

Survivors: Two sons, James A. and wife Tracy Tynan of Hackettstown, Thomas C. and wife Alana Wall of East Stroudsburg; a sister Arlene "Beaner" Saunders of Hackettstown; seven grandchildren, Tracie and husband Steve Kennedy, Stacey and husband David Senn, Eric, Cheri and Becky Wall, Kelly and Jessica Tynan; and eight grand-children.

He was predeceased in 1994 by a son, William J. Wall.

Services: Visitation will be held 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at the Cochran Funeral Home, 905 High Street, Hackettstown. Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, December 3, 2009 in the funeral home. Interment will be in Tranquility Cemetery, Tranquility, NJ.

Memorials: In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are requested to Tranquility United Methodist Church, Tranquility, NJ.

The Express-Times: 1 December 2009

NAME: Edwin M. Tynan

DATE OF DEATH: 28 November, 2009