



Paul L. Gravenor

Paul L. Gravenor, 90, of Ephrata, PA, died on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at his residence after a lengthy illness. He was the husband of the late Myrle M. (Knieblher) Gravenor, who died in 1998, and was a son of the late Harvey S. and Adelaide V. (Locke) Gravenor.

He is survived by three daughters: Karen A., wife of John A. Leonhard of Robesonia, P. Kristin, wife of Dennis A. Martzall of Akron and Kathy L., wife of James M. Kiefer of Ephrata; six grandchildren: Anne Elizabeth Kiefer, Abby Kristin, wife of Timothy Nelson, Paul Andrew Leonhard, husband of Kristi (Sweigart), Michael Jameson Kiefer, husband of Sheri (Wolf), Daniel Allen Martzall, husband of Denise (LeGrande) and Polly Suzanne, wife of Carl D.

Longenberger; and six great grandchildren.

In addition to his wife and parents, Paul was preceded in death by a grandson, Jonathan Gravenor Leonhard, and two brothers, Ralph and Robert Gravenor.

Paul was born in Westmont, NJ on September 8, 1918. He was a graduate of Haddonfield High School in New Jersey, the Eckels College of Mortuary Science in Philadelphia, and became a Licensed Funeral Director in 1945. He served on the Graves Registration Service recovery operations for the U.S. Military for 13 months in Europe, from 1945-46, and for 3 years after that in the Pacific based in Honolulu, HI, identifying and providing proper burials for U.S. servicemen who died overseas in combat.

After returning from Hawaii, Paul was employed by the Fred F. Groff Funeral Home in Lancaster. He accepted a position at the Eitnier and Hoffman Funeral Home in Ephrata in 1953 and purchased the firm in 1955, renaming it the Paul L. Gravenor Home For Funerals. He had been its owner, licensed supervisor and president since then.

Paul was a member of Bethany United Church of Christ in Ephrata and served on many posts for the church through the years. He was a member of the Ephrata Lodge No. 665 Free and Accepted Masons, Lancaster County Shrine Club, Reading Consistory, Ephrata Lions Club (55 years and past pres.), Ephrata Pioneer Fire Company, Ephrata Elks, Tall Cedars of Lebanon and the Ephrata Shade Tree Commission.

Friends will be received from 6-9 p.m. on Sunday, December 14, and from 9-10 a.m. on Monday, December 15, at the Paul L. Gravenor Home For Funerals, Inc., 100 W. Main St., Ephrata, PA. A Christian Prayer Service will be held during Sunday's viewing at 8 p.m. and Funeral Services will follow Monday's viewing at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Mark J. Johnson officiating. Interment will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Ephrata.

To offer your condolences, please visit [www. gravenorhomeforfunerals.com](http://www.gravenorhomeforfunerals.com)