



Durbin H. Downey

May 23, 1925 - December 26, 2008

Durbin H. Downey
1925-2008

Funeral service for Durbin H. Downey, age 83 of Princeton, will be Monday, Dec 29, 2008 at 11:00 AM at the Norberg Memorial Home. Father Michel J. Pugin, OSB will officiate. Burial will follow in the Sheffield Cemetery on Dec 29, 2008. The family will receive friends on Monday, Dec 29, 2008 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Norberg Memorial Home.

Mr. Downey passed away on Friday, Dec 26, 2008 at Colonial Hall Rehab and Nursing Center in Princeton. He was born on May 23, 1925 in Princeton, IL to Durbin R. and Ruth (McKutcheon) Parr-Downey. He graduated from Princeton High School. He attended the University of Arizona and Northwestern University. He was in the US Army Air force during WWII where he was trained as a navigator. He also served during Korea and was also involved in strategic air command during the cold war. He was previously married to June Wiltz. He was an accomplished piano entertainer locally, regionally, and nationally. His stage name was Derby O'Downey. He wrote a piano teaching method record which was widely used. Mr. Downey wrote the state song for the 150th anniversary of the state of Illinois. He was an author, inventor and realtor. He was an active member of the Church of the Transfiguration. He was also a member of the American Legion and the National Association of

Realtors for over fifty years. He restored homes, was a real estate developer, and has a street named after him, Downey Drive in Princeton.

He is survived by his two children Durbin Downey Jr. of Northern California and Deb (Jeremy) Michaels of Gillette, Wyoming. Also surviving are two grandchildren Julian and Eva Michaels.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother Harold E. Parr and one sister Doris P. Leonard.

Memorials may be directed to the donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

Sheffield Cemetery