

## Donald T. 'Tom' Parks Member of 15th Street United Methodist Church, Huntingdon

Donald T. 'Tom' Parks

Daily News, The (Huntingdon, Mount Union, PA) - Thursday, January 18, 2018

Donald T. "Tom" Parks, 97, formerly of Smithfield Township, died at 10:25 a.m. Monday, Jan. 15, 2018, at The Oaks at Westminster Woods, Huntingdon.

Born March 14, 1920, in Smithfield Township, he was the son of the late Ray and Margaret (Lynn) Parks. He was united in marriage to the former Hazel Baker Sept. 11, 1942, at the Fifth Street Methodist Church in Harrisburg by the Rev. Cloyd W. Fields. Mrs. Parks preceded him in death Aug. 19, 2014.

Mr. Parks is survived by his children, Stephen Thomas Parks and wife, Angela, of Hollidaysburg, D. Diane (Parks) Rizzo of Phoenixville and Marilyn Parks of Huntingdon; grandchildren, Stephanie Fogal and Samantha Rizzo; and great-grandchildren, Sarah Mickel, Logen Fogal and Roman Agosto.

He is also survived by a sister, Cleo "Dolly" Gordon of St. Petersburg, Florida.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Orville Ray Parks; and a sister, Ethelda (Parks) Nier.

Mr. Parks was a member of the 15th Street United Methodist Church, Huntingdon.

He served in the United States Army during World War II, attaining the rank of master sergeant. Mr. Parks spent two and one-half years in China, Burma and the Indian Theatre in Ordinance Intelligence Equipment Service.

Mr. Parks was a life member of the Standing Stone VFW Post 1754, Huntingdon, and a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Retired State Employees and the Standing Stone Senior Citizens.

He was a 1938 graduate of Huntingdon High School and served on his reunion committee.

Mr. Parks worked briefly at the former J.C. Blair Co. and then worked at the former Owens-Corning Fiberglas for 16 years. He retired as a corrections officer at SCI Huntingdon in March 1983.

He was an avid baseball and football fan, especially of New York Yankees and Pittsburgh Pirates baseball and Penn State and Pittsburgh Steelers football. Mr. Parks played baseball in high school, Huntingdon City League and professionally in the minor leagues in Tennessee, Columbia, South Carolina,

Minnesota and Harrisburg. He was inducted into the

Huntingdon County

Sports Hall of Fame in

June 2000. In his earlier years, Mr. Parks' hobby was making reflecting telescopes and hand grinding the lenses. He also enjoyed hunting and was an avid trapper. Mr. Parks family and friends will remember him as an loyal husband and father who will be missed. He loved his family

and enjoyed spending time with them.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20, at the Robert E. Peters Funeral Home, Huntingdon, with the Rev. Fred Hickok officiating. Interment will be made in the White Church Cemetery, Hesston. Military honors will be accorded by the VFW/American Legion Joint Color and Honor Guard.

At Mr. Parks' request, there will be no public viewing.

Memorial contributions in memory of Mr. Parks may be made to the Huntingdon County Humane Society, 11371 Schoolhouse Hollow Road, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

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