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Elmer A. Bolen

February 13, 1924 - April 20, 2015

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Date: Wed Apr 22, 2015
 Time: 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
 Location:

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Elmer Arthur Bolen, 91, of The Valley in Syracuse, NY, died Monday, April 20, 2015 at Upstate University Hospital. Born in Syracuse, NY, he was the son of the late Edward and Violet (Creamer) Bolen. Elmer was a graduate of Onondaga Valley Academy and attended Colgate University. He was an accomplished, highly skilled carpenter for over 40 years, retiring from Carpenters Local 12 and Syracuse City School District Board of Education. He was a professional baseball player, playing in the AA and AAA leagues. He was a Navy veteran of WWII where he was a radioman/gunner and flew aboard the USS Langley in TBF Avenger. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross for helping sink the battleship Musashi. Elmer was the original founder of the American Legion Valley Post 1468 and was a past Commander. He was an avid golfer and he built customized golf clubs. He was a league bowler, avid hunter, President of Pitchville Hunt Club, lover of county music, bluegrass enthusiast and Syracuse's #1 Boston Red Socks fan since the age of 8.

Elmer is survived by his six children, Kristine A. (Daniel) Trytek of Syracuse, NY, Edward J. Bolen of Syracuse, NY, Kathleen M. Young of Rockledge, FL, James P. (Darlene) Bolen of Fulton, NY, Mary K. Bolen of Syracuse, NY and Patricia (Charles) Zervakos of Long Island, NY; sister, Beverly Kulick of Syracuse, NY; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews; and his beloved granddog, Sergeant Schultz. He was predeceased by his wife, Ileana A. (Scullen) Bolen and siblings, Edward J. Bolen, Walter P. Bolen and Marilyn Dillon.

Calling hours will be held Wednesday, April 22, 2015, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home, Inc., Syracuse, NY. Funeral services will be Thursday, April 23, 2015, 11 a.m. at Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home, Inc., 4612 S. Salina Street. Burial will be in Onondaga Valley Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Disabled American Veterans, 130 S. Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202 and Wounded Warriors Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, KA 66675.