



Charles Dillon

March 18, 1920 - June 29, 2008

Charles Dillon, 88, of Butler, PA , died at home on Sunday, June 29, 2008.

Attorney Dillon was born March 18, 1920 in Butler, PA. He was the son of the late John Coady Dillon and the late Ann (Daugherty) Dillon.

Charley graduated from Butler High School in 1937, where he lettered in swimming and football. He was a member of the Butler WPIAL Championship Swimming Team in 1935.

He graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1941 as President of his senior class and a member of student council. While at Notre Dame, Charley won inter-hall championship awards in football, track, and swimming. He also fought in the Bengal Bouts.

Charley entered the Army in October 1941, as a selectee under the Selective Service Act of 1940, which required all single males between the ages of 21 and 35 to serve one year of compulsory military service. The popular song of the day was "Goodbye Dear I'll be Back in a Year", but Charley didn't return to Butler until December 1945, four years and two months later.

Three and one half years of his military service were spent overseas in the South West Pacific Theater where he was involved in the first U. S. Army offensive action at Buna in New Guinea and the last in Northern Luzon in the Philippines. He also served briefly during the occupation of Japan.

After his initial service in New Guinea with the 41st Infantry (Sunset) Division, Charley received his officer's commission in the artillery and was assigned to the 32nd Infantry (Red Arrow) Division. He was involved in several

amphibious assault landings in New Guinea and Biak Island. As a 1st Lieutenant, Charley served as Battery Commander of Headquarters Battery of the 32nd Division Artillery in the Leyte and Luzon campaigns in the Philippines. He was awarded the Bronze Star and several campaign ribbons. In 1947, Charley founded and organized the first Butler Grade School Basketball League. In 1948, Charley married Nina Elizabeth Turnblacer; their sixty year marriage was blessed with seven children. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1951. Initially, Charley commenced the practice of law in Butler in partnership with his brother, the late Judge John C. Dillon. Later for many years, he served as senior partner of the law firm of Dillon, McCandless King Coulter & Graham, L. L. P. He specialized in school and municipal law, as well as eminent domain, real estate and decedents' estate law. In his earlier years, he had an active trial practice and tried hundreds of highway condemnation cases for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

He was solicitor for the Butler Area School District and the Butler Flood Control Authority for over 35 years, the Butler Hospital Authority for over 20 years, and the Controller of Butler Co. for over 28 years. He was the solicitor for the City of Butler from 1962 to 1968; the Mars Area School District from 1974 to 1980; and solicitor for several other local municipalities and authorities.

Charley was a life member of the American, Pennsylvania and Butler Co. Bar Associations. He served as president of the Butler Co. Bar Association in 1971 and 1972.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Butler Memorial Hospital from 1960 to 1972 where he served as vice-president, treasurer, member of the executive committee, and chairman of the Nursing School Committee. He also served as chairman of the Red Cross Fund Campaign, and chairman of the Professional Division of the Community Chest and United Fund Campaigns.

Charley was a life-time member of the Knights of Columbus, Veterans of

Foreign Wars, Elks, and Butler Country Club. He was a charter member of the Butler Jaycees. He was an organizer and initial director of Lawyers' Abstract Co. of Butler Co.

Charley was a life member of St. Paul Catholic Church where for many years he served on the church committee, finance committee and as a lector. He was recently trained as a docent to guide tours of the church.

Charley enjoyed playing golf and bridge, but he freely admitted he never excelled in either of them.

Charley first and foremost was a family man. He loved family vacations and frequent family get-togethers throughout the years.

Surviving are his wife of over sixty years, Nina (Turnblacer) Dillon; 7 children, Ann G. Dillon, of Austin , TX, Charles E. Dillon, Jr. of Butler, Robert D. Dillon of Benbrook, TX, Patricia J. Birckbichler of Butler, Daniel F. Dillon of Cranberry Twp., Elizabeth J. Catalane of Sewickley, Mary Jo Hutchison of Saxonburg and 15 grandchildren, 3 step grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. He was preceded in death by a brother, the late Judge John C. Dillon, a sister, Anne Marie Carlin, and a brother, Dr. Daniel James Dillon.

Friends will be received from 2-4 and 7-9, Wednesday, July 2 at the Young Funeral Home, Ltd., Butler, PA. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Paul's Catholic Church on Thursday, July 3, 2008 at 9:30 AM with Father Harry Bielewicz officiating.

Interment will follow in the Calvary Cemetery

Military honors by VFW Post 249 and American Legion 778 at graveside.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the VNA Hospice Inpatient Unit, 154 Hindman Rd., Butler, PA 16001, the Butler Area Public Library, 218 N. McKean St. Butler, PA 16001, or the Blind Assn. of Butler, 322 N. McKean St., Butler, PA 16001.

Information available at www.youngfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall



“ With great sympathy we salute your Dad - a great American, a Dedicated Patriot, and a Hero to many family and loved ones. We pass our condolences to the entire Dillon Family on this 4th of July 2008. Blessings, from your neighbor.

CAPTAIN R. Stapleford, USN (Ret)
Military Outreach Coordinator for U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA04)##imported-begin##The Stapleford's##imported-end##

June 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept our deepest sympathy. Charlie was a good friend of our family over the years and helped us many times.##imported-begin##Albert & Rene'e Mohn##imported-end##

June 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Mary Jo,

You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Your dad was a great man. I always admired his love of country and family.

With sympathy,

Sandy Neuman##imported-begin##Sandra Neuman##imported-end##

June 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mary Jo,*

I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your father. It is hard to loose your parent no matter their age, or how long they lived.

You have my deepest sympathy.

Linda Kovacik##imported-begin##Linda Kovacik##imported-end##

June 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM