



Alois 'Al' Kopp

January 25, 2017

Kopp, Alois "Al" 98, of Minne-tonka, MN, peacefully left for heaven on January 25, 2017. Born on a farm in Raleigh, ND on May 3, 1918, son of German immigrants, the late Emil and Irene (Miller) Kopp, preceded in rest by his wife of 61 years, Helen Marjorie (Jones) Kopp, 9 brothers and sisters, and many beloved friends and family. Al is survived by his sister, Tina Geiss, of Glen Ullin, ND, and will be deeply missed by daughter Lisa L. Kopp, son-in-law Thomas K. Reddy of Saint Paul, his cherished grandchildren Sarah, Sean, Martha, and Abby, and many others including sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and acquaintances. Al joined the CCCs in the 1930s and the US Navy in 1937. He became a highly-decorated veteran of WWII, was aboard the USS Houston when she was sunk by the Japanese in early 1942, and was their POW for 44-months of near-starvation and forced labor. Al helped save many a fellow prisoner with his medical skill, ever-present faith, and positive outlook. Having earned the nickname, "Doc," he left the Navy in 1947. Al married Helen in Minneapolis in 1946 and together they chose a lucky baby girl in 1958. They settled in Minnetonka and had a wonderful life together until Helen's passing in 2007. Al was a successful salesman of various products and was self-employed at the time of his retirement. He remained a healthy and vital "survivor" until the end, was a beloved figure in his large extended family, and was admired and respected by everyone he came in contact with. In his later years, he became increasingly interested in sharing his POW story, spoke at area schools, and was interviewed by many

news stations, authors, and military historians. Always sharp-witted, compassionate and opinionated, Al loved Life ... and Life loved him back!!
Mass of Christian Burial 10 AM, Friday, February 10, St. Therese of
Deephaven, 18323 Minnetonka Blvd., with visitation 1 hour prior to Mass.
Inurnment with military honors at 1:15 PM (lane 4), Ft. Snelling National
Cemetery. Memorials in Al's memory preferred to charities benefiting our
nation's veterans. Washburn-McReavy.com Strobeck Johnson 952-938-9020