



## Merle D. Van Riper

September 1, 1926 - February 3, 2024

Merle D. Van Riper passed away peacefully on February 3, 2024 at Covenant Independent Living in Golden Valley, MN. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 73 years, Evelyn (Olson) Van Riper; parents, William and Anna Van Riper; siblings, Paul, Vernon, and Herald ("Sunshine"); and grandson, John Patrick. Merle is survived by his sons, Ron (Kay) Van Riper and Rick Van Riper (Mary Jo); grandchildren, Justin (Danielle) Van Riper, Amy Koffski (Erik), and Laura Van Riper; and great-grandchildren, Myles, April, Ellie, Grace, Rowen, and Everett.

Merle was a Navy Veteran and served alongside his three older brothers during WWII. After the Navy, Merle worked for Minneapolis Moline in Hopkins, then as a supervisor at Dayton's and later as a "special delivery carrier" for the Hopkins postal office. Merle loved his family, golfing, fishing and sharing jokes and stories.

Funeral service to be held on Monday, February 12, at 2 PM at Washburn-McReavy Hopkins Chapel. Visitation one hour prior. Private interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to K9s for Warriors and Give Kids the World.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hopkins Chapel  
1400 Mainstreet  
Hopkins, MN 55343

## Chapel Service

FEB 12. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (CT)

Hopkins Chapel  
1400 Mainstreet  
Hopkins, MN 55343