



Thomas Alan Nelson

June 16, 2016

Nelson, Thomas Alan Age 94, of Litchfield, was peace-fully ushered into the heavens on June 16, 2016 with the comfort and love of his family by his side. Tom was a decorated combat soldier, opting to join the military at age 17 and fighting with the 473rd Infantry Regiment and the 34th Red Bull Regiment in Italy and North Africa during World War II. His selfless service and determination to protect both fellow soldiers and civilians alike earned Tom a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars and six Battle Stars and two Purple Hearts. But it was Tom's warmth, humility and boundless charm that outshined even his highest military accolades. From Tom's unwavering optimism and determination to live positively and with dignity, to his gentle kindness and compassion, which he extended to family and passerby alike, Tom Nelson was an exemplary father and grandfather, and an extraordinary human being. Tom was preceded in death by his mother Lucille, his beloved partner Carol B. Gates and his former wife Kathryn Nelson. Those left to continue Tom's adventures are his son Steve (Karen) Nelson, granddaughter and best friend, Katie G. Nelson, grandson Steve Tarbuck, as well as his two daughters Kathleen and Kari Ann Nelson, and granddaughters, Kathrine, Kristina, Kara and Gia in Tucson, AZ. A special thank you to the staff at the Glenn Hopkins, St. Therese New Hope, and the VA Hospital for their love and friendship in the last several months, especially while in hospice care. A celebration of life will be held on Thursday, June 23 at 10:30 AM with visitation one hour prior at Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel, Hwy. 5 & 55. Interment Fort Snelling National

Cemetery. To honor Tom's life, please bring a nonperishable food item or eye glasses to his service for the Minnetonka Lions Club. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred. Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996