



## Vernon Ingram

April 5, 1926 - August 27, 2011

INGRAM, VERNON -Vernon Ingram, 85 years old of Alpharetta, passed away on August 27, 2011. He leaves his wife of 64 years, Clara (Deer) Ingram; his son, Michael C. Ingram and his wife, Bonnie; his daughter, Patricia Lyn O'Leary and her husband, Dan O'Leary; his two grandchildren, Kevin and Courtney O'Leary; and many close friends. Born and raised in Salem, Virginia, the son of Thomas Otey and Annie Lula (Shively) Ingram, Vern was the middle child of their nine children including Myra (Kilpatrick), Reba (Bowles), Herman, Ima (Riegel), Vernon, Wendel, Ronnie, Coy (Riegel), and Leon. He was a longtime resident of both Richmond, Virginia, and the Atlanta, Georgia area. Early in his senior year at Andrew Lewis High School, Vern enlisted in the United States Army, joining the Enlisted Reserve Corps (ERC).

Subsequent to graduating high school, he entered active duty in the Army Air Corps in August 1944. He completed Army Air Forces Basic Training at Sheppard Field, Wichita Falls, Texas. He then completed Flexible Gunnery School at Buckingham Army Air Field, Ft. Myers, Florida, earning the Gunner Badge. He would fly on a B-29 Superfortress Heavy Bomber as the left side turret gunner. After a full year of training, Vern arrived at North Field, Guam in early August 1945. He flew on four total missions from Guam prior to the signing of the instruments of surrender in Tokyo Bay, 2 September 1945. Most notably, he flew on a designated Combat Mission to drop much needed supplies to Americans in a POW camp in Japan at the end of August, 1945. All total Vern flew almost 250 hours on over 100 B-29 flights, as well as 21

hours on 7 separate B-24 flights in training. Vern served for one year on Guam, re-deployed, and was discharged from active duty at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina on 28 August, 1946, at the rank of Staff Sergeant. Vern was re-called to active duty in the U.S. Air Force on 5 September, 1950. He served for a year at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas as a Staff Sergeant in a Training Squadron. He was discharged from active duty for the last time on 3 September, 1951. In total, Vern served 3 years of active duty, including one year overseas, and over 6 more years in the inactive reserves. After a courtship of several years he married his wife, Clara Alberta Deer, in August 1947 in St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Roanoke, Virginia. In 1950 Vern began a 34 year career with the National Park Service on the Blue Ridge Parkway. This took him and family to Cumberland Gap, Tennessee; Richmond, Virginia; and finally Atlanta, Georgia. He culminated his service as an accomplished and widely recognized contracting officer and property manager for the Southeast Regional Office. During his life Vern's hobbies included bowling and golf, fishing and hunting, motorcycle riding, and poker. Vern enjoyed a long and productive retirement during which he further pursued his love of gardening and yard work, and always looked forward to time with his grandchildren. He could always be counted on to help others in need. He chaired and served on many volunteer committees over the years in the park service and at each of his churches. While Vern grew up in the Great Depression with a paucity of material assets, he most valued the emotional, intellectual and spiritual wealth that he would accumulate in abundance during his life. He will be missed by the many whose lives he touched. A funeral service will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 1:30pm in Holy Cross Anglican Church, in Loganville, Georgia with a reception immediately following. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Holy Cross Anglican Church building fund, 3836 Oak Grove Road, Loganville, Georgia 30052. Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Road, Loganville, Georgia 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign online guest registry at [www.stewartfh.com](http://www.stewartfh.com)



# Previous Events

## Service

SEP 11. 1:30 PM (ET)

Holy Cross Anglican Church  
3836 Oak Grove Road  
Loganville, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Vernon Ingram*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *We will miss our friend Vern. He was always there with a smile and a reassuring message when things were rough. He was concerned with his fellow workers at the National Park Service and his fellow citizens through his church and the community. He was a dear friend and he will be missed. God Bless you Vern on your new journey.##imported-begin##James and Karen Holcombe##imported-end##*

September 11, 2011 at 11:20 AM



“ *Vern was a great man that married a wonderful lady*

*I will always have a place in my heart for the both of you##imported-begin##Andy Schoen##imported-end##*

September 02, 2011 at 08:45 PM



“ *Our condolences for your loss.##imported-begin##Donald and Carolyn Johnston##imported-end##*

September 02, 2011 at 12:53 PM