



Hazel Forbes Bartron

August 2, 1920 - May 8, 2011

Hazel Bartron, 90, widow of the Air Force aviator for which Forbes Field was named, died Wednesday night May 4, 2011 at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka, KS. The daughter of Margaret (Walsh) and William "Port" Moog, she was born in the family home near Ney, Ohio on August 2, 1920. She is survived by two children, William (Shelly) Bartron of Topeka and Jill Bartron also of Topeka; a sister, Iris Donze of Montpelier, OH; a brother, Robert (Arlene) Moog of Holt, MI; and a nephew, William (Denise) Moog, San Marcus, CA. Grandchildren include, Robert (Brandy), Grace, and Reece Bartron; and Zachary Mentzer; and one great-grandchild, Carter Bartron. Hazel was preceded in death by her brother, Carl Moog, her first husband, Lt. Edward "Red" Winkle, killed in action in World War II; and her second husband, Maj. Daniel H. Forbes, Jr., who was killed during a test flight of the YB-49 "Flying Wing" at Muroc Field CA (now Edwards AFB), on June 5th, 1948. She married Robert Bartron, a career Air Force pilot, on October 11, 1949. They were divorced in 1969. For those wishing to visit with family and friends, a time is set for Sunday, May 8, 2011, at Kevin Brennan Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, between 6:00 and 7:30 pm. Burial will be at the Overbrook KS cemetery in a private ceremony where Hazel's remains will be interred next to her husband, Daniel Forbes, Jr. Hazel was a supporter of the Combat Air Museum and donated many items related to her husband, Daniel H. Forbes, Jr. Her family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Combat Air Museum at Forbes Field KS, sent in

care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Hazel Forbes Bartron*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Dear family, It was my sincere pleasure visiting with and and getting to know Hazel over the past few years. As Chairman of the Combat Air Museum, please know it is our sincere pleasure to have the opportunity to display all of the artifacts and information contributed to CAM by Hazel. The history and story concerning the life of Daniel Forbes will live on at the Combat Air Museum for many year to come, thanks to Hazel.*

Gene Howerter - May 09, 2011 at 04:22 PM

“ The eulogy presented at the visitation May 8, 2011

Hazel Marie Bartron

Born on August 2, 1920 in the family house located near the small farming community of Ney, Ohio Hazel was the third of four children born to William (“Port” as he was called) and Maggie Moog.

Iris, Carl, Hazel, and her younger brother Bob grew up in the tight nit farming network where family and friends assisted all the other farmers and neighbors in the area, from planting season to harvest and on into the winter. The Moog’s owned the tractor and two strong horses, the other implements were brought into the arena by others in the community and all joined together, the women cooking meals and the men working the fields.

Neighbors relied on neighbors for assistance; Hazel told me of Mrs. Stratton who lived by herself just down the street. With no telephones... communication consisted of a raised flag and it was usually Hazel’s job to see what Mrs. Stratton needed; most of the time it was a grocery list, assist with a chore around the house, or just someone to talk to.

The Moog children were the eponymy of Tom Brokaw’s “the greatest generation”. The former NBC News anchor identified those who grew up during the depression years and then went on to fight during World War II.

During the depression the family “needs” were provided, the small farm proved fruitful for most everything they needed. The “wants” however were few and far between. She told me “we were poor, but at the time we did not know it, we had everything we needed”. Not so true for most of America at that time.

As the depression ended two major events would change Hazel’s life as she knew it on the farm. Her father would fall ill and die of a brain tumor and war was brewing in Europe and the Far East.

Because of the medical bills and no insurance resulting from her father’s illness the family was forced to split up. Iris married, Carl and Bob both joined the military and Hazel and her mother moved into an apartment in town.

That is when she met her first husband, Edward (or “Red” as he

was called) Winkle. Red was a dashing educated young man sporting bright red hair. After Pearl Harbor he also signed up for the military. Red was killed in action during General George Patton's push through southern France during the fall of 1944.

Hazel felt she had to get away for a while, first to a business college then on to Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio where she landed a job as a secretary for the Air Force Test Center. She received the highest security level working for the commander of the photographic unit. This was during the era of the Roswell incident. If there was any indication of aliens crashing on Earth she would know it; and there wasn't, I asked.

While at Dayton she would meet a number of dashing young pilots, mostly test pilots who were all attracted by her charm and striking looks. Hazel knew most of the test pilots during that post war era; she had her pick and chose a Kansas boy, Daniel Forbes, Jr.

The namesake of what is now Forbes Field served in the Army Air Corps throughout World War II and became a test pilot flying strange looking bombers. They married on March 11, 1948 just 3 months before Dan Forbes and 4 others were killed during a test flight over the California desert.

Hazel was devastated and returned to her job at Dayton. In 1949 Kansas officials partitioned and changed the name of the Air Base in Topeka to Forbes AFB. She acquired the courage and joined the Forbes family to be part of that ceremony.

Hazel later met another dashing Air Force pilot, Robert Bartron, a West Point graduate who was a career officer. She followed him throughout the country, New Mexico, California, Nebraska, and Maryland then on to a European assignment.

The couple could not have children and elected to adopt. Bill arrived first during an assignment at Omaha and a few years later Jill joined the family while they were in Washington DC.

Hazel enjoyed the life as an officer's wife and mother but the game of golf would eventually split the family apart

LS

“ *Bill and Shelly, my prayers are with you in this you time of sorrow. Think of all the wonderful times that you had together. Those memories will last until you meet again.*

Leota Sherretts - May 08, 2011 at 01:45 PM

JG

“ *I was so very sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you. May God give you strength during these difficult times.*

Jill Gibb - May 07, 2011 at 06:42 PM

MB

“ *Bill - Sorry to hear of your mothers passing. So glad I got to visit with her at the Manor during Christmas. Peace Be With You....Mike Browne*

Mike Browne - May 06, 2011 at 05:35 PM

MF

“ *I'm sorry to hear about Hazel, but feel blessed to have known her. She was an absolute delight to have as our guest for the Forbes at 50 celebration, and I was honored to escort her to the Edwards at 50 airshow. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and we know we will soar to meet her in heaven someday.*
Sincerely,

*Karl H. Fruendt, Major, USAF (KSANG)
190th Air Refueling Wing
Forbes Field Air National Guard Base*

Major Karl H. Fruendt - May 06, 2011 at 04:15 PM

AS

“ *Death is a loss that mear words can't explain. May the peace of your faith comfort you. There is always a empty feeling after a loved one has passed. Thats when we need to hold tight to the memories of our time with them. Ask for comfort from the people closest to us. So if there is anything I can do call/txt.*

*love you all,
Aunt Sandy Flowers*

Aunt Sandy - May 06, 2011 at 08:53 AM