



Albin Alexander Collins

APR 2, 1932 - APR 20, 2017



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Albin Alexander Collins

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Albin Alexander Collins of Bay Ridge, Annapolis passed away peacefully in his home on the morning of April 20th surrounded by family. He was 85.

Albin was born in Lwow, Poland in 1932 to parents Pauline and Alexander, his childhood was spent escaping the turmoil of World War II. In 1939, Albin and his mother were seized, along with several hundred other people as political prisoners. They were put aboard a train for a slave camp deep in Russia. After Polish underground intercepted the train, Albin and his mother escaped to live in hiding for several weeks. Mother and son returned home but were then captured by the German occupation army and sent to a prison camp at Buchenberg and Hannover. Albin's father, a soldier in the Polish army, had previously been taken prisoner by the Germans and was imprisoned in unknown military camp. After the war, the Red Cross managed to locate Albin's father. The allies liberated in the camps in 1945 and with the help of the Catholic National Welfare Organization the reunited Szpilowski family was brought to the United States of America in November 1950.

A Polish immigrant who rallied from three desperate years in German labor camp and finished his high school education. Albin went to prep school in Hannover, than to Hamburg Polish High for four years. After completing his high school education at Montgomery Blair High School in Takoma Park, Maryland. Albin went to work for the Star newspaper in June 1951 and promptly won the paper's four year scholarship to George Washington University in Washington DC for journalism and political science and history. While attending university, Albin met the love of his life, Dorothy G. Drake. Albin served in the United States Marine Corps Service Armed Forces of The United States from 1952 to 1955, he made Corporal of 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines.

He married Dorothy in October of 1959 and started a family with the addition of three children, Richard, Gregory and Paul. They raised their family in Chevy Chase, MD before moving to Bay Ridge in Annapolis. Both Albin and Dorothy served their country as civil servants for the United States in Washington DC. Albin worked 30 years for The Library of Congress. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans as well as being active in the National Association of Atomic



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Veterans and Retired Federal Employees Association, and the Admirals Annapolis Yacht Club. He loved tennis, sailing on the bay, dancing, photography, traveling, helping others in need and always enjoyed a good time with family and friends.

Albin A. Collins is survived by his dear and loving family: his wife, Dorothy; three sons, Richard, Gregory and Paul; daughters in law, Elizabeth, Susan and Dana; and four grandchildren, Britt, Becca, Alex and Brennen. Also, Joanne, and many other friends and family. His kindness and respect will be sorely missed, but carried forward.

A visitation will be held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at Lasting Tributes 814 Bestgate Rd. Annapolis, MD from 6pm to 8pm. A prayer service will be that evening at 8pm. The following morning a private committal will be held at Hillcrest Memorial Park.




Events


Albin Alexander Collins

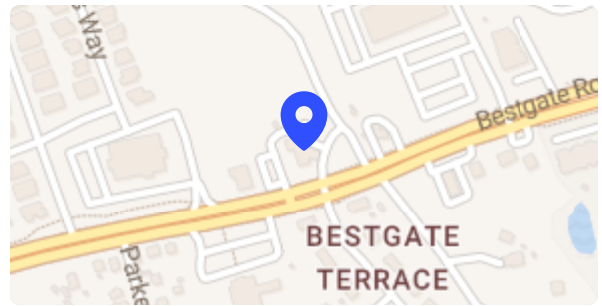
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Visitation


 **Monday**, May 1, 2017

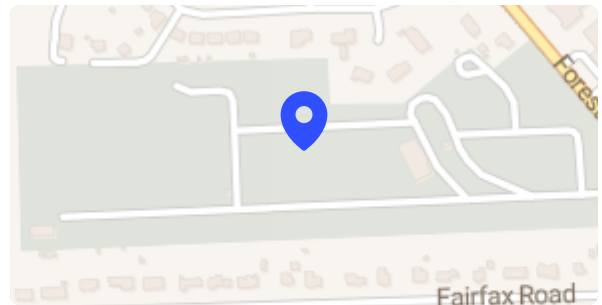
 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401



Cemetery Details

 **Hillcrest Memorial Gardens**
1911 Forest Drive, Annapolis MD





Tribute Wall

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Dave McClave posted:

Dear Dorothy and Collins Children, Here's a voice from the past expressing my gratitude for your friendship back in the 80's when Albin and I worked together at the Federal Research Division of the Library. It's Dave McClave. For Evelyn to join the faculty at a university here in LA, I resigned from the LC and re-invented myself as a high school teacher. I kind of disappeared to the East, but I often thought of our good times together in MD and DC. Albin and I groused about the move to the Navy Yard but there was a silver lining when we discovered the indoor tennis court. So instead of two-hour luncheons in Chinatown we had 90-minute tennis matches. He brightened my days at FRD, as he brightened everyone's day. It looks as if he had a long and fun-filled retirement. You picked out a beautiful place for yourselves there on the Bay. Course you had a nice place in Chevy Chase too as I recall. I'm a better man for having known Albin. God bless and keep him and you and the family. In Solidarnosoc and sympathy Dave

October 14 at 9:16 PM



Chris Spain posted:

Dearest Dorohy. Dan and I are so very sorry that Albin, my favorite Polish man, has passed. We are keeping you and your extended family, especially Paul, deep in our hearts and prayers. Visions of the two of you dancing and singing at the Fleet Reserve bring fond, favorite memories flooding back. Let's not lose touch - always here for you! Love, Chris and Dan Spain

May 1 at 10:33 AM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Collins family.



April 30 at 5:31 PM



Mike And Mary Swisher And Family & Ben Klaput sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Collins family.



April 29 at 9:12 AM



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Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Collins family.



April 29 at 3:04 AM



The Beatty Family: Wayne, Brenda, And Children sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Collins family.



April 28 at 8:00 AM



Kristina Herbst sent a virtual gift in honor of Albin.



April 25 at 2:16 PM



Paul And Peggy Faya sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Collins family.



April 25 at 1:30 PM



Harvey Riley shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Dear Dorothy and family, We are so sorry for your loss of Albin. How fortunate for us to have been able to call Albin our friend. But he always treated us more like family and not just mere friends. We always enjoyed his company and talks even when they were only for a brief moment. He was always the upmost gentlemen and never uttered a discouraging word. He was one of the good guys. How fortunate we all are to have known him and be touched by the good memories he left us with. May the love that surrounds you be a source of comfort at this time. Love, Harvey, Mirt and family



April 25 at 12:31 PM



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JH

Jeannie Herbst posted:

Paul, Dana and family. Our hearts are with you during this difficult time. We love you. Jeannie and Randy

April 25 at 11:25 AM

MF

Margie Francioli posted:

Dear Paul, Dana, and family. I have never met Mr. Albin, but what an interesting and wonderful life he had even after surviving those terrible prison camps. I am thinking about you and send all of you my sincere condolences. God bless and may HE aid in recovery from your loss.

April 25 at 10:18 AM

JJ

Janine Jankowski April 25 at 1:13 PM

I am so sorry for your families loss. My prayers are with you. 🙏



Media

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Harvey Riley shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 25 at 12:31 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Albin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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