



Railsplitter Obituary



At Fort McCoy ca. 1978



Edward Stroika, Jr.

1921 – 21 March 1990

CW4 Stroika served in Headquarters, 84th Division.

Ed was a Marine during WWII. I remember some of his stories about being on some of the islands in the Pacific. On the civilian side, he was a loan officer for the VA.

Before he became a warrant officer, Ed was MG Erffmeyer's 1SG when the general was a captain. In fact, at Ed's funeral, I presented the flag from Ed's coffin to MG Erffmeyer who presented it to Ed's wife Dodie (Dolores).

Ed was a great guy and mentor. I worked with him when I was a young 2LT at DIV HQ. He helped a lot of young lieutenants. We all learned lots from Ed. We had a lot of questions. I remember Ed saying that he'd rather answer a lot of stupid questions than correct a lot of stupid mistakes. On the civilian side, Ed was a home loan officer at the VA.



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He was a fun guy and knew a lot of the senior officers. I remember my first AT at Fort Leonard Wood. Ed introduced me to MG Hackbarth and a few other senior officers.

I kept in contact with Ed after he retired from the 84th. I knew he had lung cancer - he was a heavy smoker. I remember getting the call late at night when he passed. I was an AGR at that time, assigned to the 425th Trans Brigade at Fort Sheridan. I served as the Survivor's Assistance Officer to help Ed's wife Dodie, but Ed had just about everything taken care of.

John Kosobucki



DoloresT. *Kozminski* Stroika

Reunited with her husband, parents and other loved ones on July 15, 2015 at the age of 88.