



Irving Baum

September 17, 2015

Irving Baum, 92, died September 17, 2015 in Napa, California. He was born in Monticello, New York to Abraham and Ida Baum.

Irving joined Army Air Force in 1942 after Pearl Harbor and received bombardier training. He was shot down over France in 1943 and beaten severely upon capture. He wore those scars for rest of his life. He was a POW at Stalag Luft III, the POW camp where the Great Escape took place just before Irv arrived. He was liberated on April 29, 1945, by Gen. George Patton. Irving served in the Air Force until 1972, retiring as Lieutenant Colonel.

Mr. Baum graduated from the University of Southern California with a MA in Aerospace Engineering Operations and from the University of Miami - School of Education with a B.Ed in Elementary Education. He worked as a systems engineer at Sperry Corporation which later became Unisys. Irving volunteered as a tutor at an elementary school and was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom.

Irving was predeceased by his son Greg, brother Leonard and niece Sharon. He is survived by his wife Maria, children Avrum, Benjamin, and Janet, eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, brother Sheldon, nephews Michael, David and Robert, and niece Stephanie.

A funeral service will be held Friday, September 25, 2015 at 11:00 am and Claffey and Rota Funeral Home, 1975 Main St., Napa, CA 94558. Burial will take place at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, CA.

Memories and notes of sympathy may be shared at claffeyandrota.com.

Cemetery Details

Sacramento Valley National Cemetery

5810 Midway Rd.
Dixon, CA 95620
<https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/sacramento.asp>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

SEP **25**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Claffey and Rota Funeral Home
1975 Main Street
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 224-5210
services@claffeyandrota.com
<http://www.claffeyandrota.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Irving Baum*

September 29, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *Irving Baum*

September 29, 2022 at 02:55 PM



“ *I met Irv when he participated in a project my group did for Leadership Napa Valley. He told us his story of having been a POW and agreed to be interviewed. It was a tremendous experience just to sit back and listen to him talk about what it was like to be in that situation and how they got through it. What a truly amazing man he was! I will always be grateful to have known him and for what he went through for his country. It would not be the country it is were it not for men like him.*

Tamara Hargis - October 14, 2015 at 10:30 AM



“ *I met Irv in 2005 at a reunion of former Stalag Luft III POWs. I was there with my 10 year old son, Mark and both of us enjoyed getting to know Irv. Mark is going to be 21 this week and is planning to join the Air Force. His grandfather was also in Stalag III.*



Dick Olson - October 02, 2015 at 02:52 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Irving Baum.*



September 24, 2015 at 11:30 AM

YY

“ Yolanda K Young purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Irving Baum.



Yolanda K Young - September 23, 2015 at 10:37 PM

BP

“ Bel Aire Park Magnet School staff and parents purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Irving Baum.



Bel Aire Park Magnet School staff and parents - September 23, 2015 at 08:18 PM

LF

“ RIP my friend. I used to talk to Irv when we both walked early in the morning. I always looked forward to seeing him, even if it was at 4:30 in the morning.

larry frattini - September 22, 2015 at 10:51 PM

TW

Irv you were wonderful. I worked with you on the Napa Grand Jury. Amazing that you wrote the entire handbook from scratch. You are missed. Tim Wilkens

tim wilkens - November 21, 2023 at 11:45 AM