

## Arthur Kieffer

March 27, 1921 – June 29, 2015



Arthur Kieffer passed away on Monday, June 29, 2015. Art was born in Elmira on March 27, 1921. He was predeceased by his wife of 68 years, Sophie Kieffer in 2013.

Art was a proud U S Army Air Force veteran serving as a tail gunner on a B24 Bomber in WWII. His military service earned him the Air Medal and the EAME Medal with 4 Bronze Stars.

Art was Chemung County Historian and Bell Ringer, a Mason Superintendent for Streeter Associates, and in 1966 was appointed Chemung County Building Superintendent. A true public servant, Art was a member and served as an officer for countless civic groups in Chemung County, Elmira and Ithaca.

Art was recognized as a consummate dahlia man throughout the ADS for decades. He was recognized by the ADS as both a grower and hybridizer and served the American Dahlia Society as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. He won major prizes in national shows and introduced many ADS seedlings, including Honka in 1990. In 2002 Art was awarded the American Dahlia Society Gold Medal for service to the ADS.

Art is survived by his son James A. Kieffer of Nashua NH; daughter and son-in-law Suzanne and Harold Owens of Horseheads; grandchildren, Justin, Ryan and Brendan Kieffer; sister-in-law Mary Kieffer of Canandaigua NY; along with several nieces and a nephew.

Friends are invited to McNerny Funeral Home, 502 W. Water Street, Elmira, on Monday, July 6, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Those wishing may remember Art with a donation to the Chemung County Historical Society, 415 E. Water Street, Elmira NY 14901. - See more at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/star-gazette/obituary.aspx?n=j-arthur-kieffer&pid=175193553&#sthash.XiHm1v92.dpuf>