



Donald Arthur Fern

Fern, Donald Arthur age 94, died suddenly on January 19, 2021. Born October 1, 1926 in Melrose, MN to parents Joseph J. and Katherine (Zenz) Fern. Preceded in death by parents, spouse Ruby, brothers Robert, Vernon, Richard; sisters Irene Verbeke, Alyce Maahs and Rosalia Smith. Survived by many dear cousins, nieces, and nephews. Don graduated from

Melrose High School, 1944. Enlisted in the Navy August 4, 1944 and served as a radioman on the USS BOSTON CA 69. Participated in the first bombardment of the main islands of Japan. Honorably discharged from the Navy on June 8, 1946. Employed at the Veterans Administration, Fort Snelling in December 1946. Retired in October 1981 after 31 years of service. Enlisted in the 103rd Infantry Div. Army Reserve Band three years prior to the Korean outbreak. He was never called to active duty as a reservist and received an Honorable discharge. Don married Ruby C. Pierson on February 22, 1955. He was very active in several sporting groups. Certified Minnesota Firearms safety instructor since 1985. Lifetime member of the American Legion Melrose Post 101. Lifetime member of Monticello Rod & Gun Club. Honorary Member of the Delano Sportsmen's Club. Mass of Christian Burial 11:00 AM Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH, Melrose, MN. Service will be livestreamed via [youtube.com/channel/UCOaO5vHh2v0cSsjkQdqj3w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOaO5vHh2v0cSsjkQdqj3w). pattonschad.com 1-888-799-4249