

Donald C. Wood

Elizabeth Wood

Donald C. Wood was born on September 27, 1918 to William and Jennie (Miller) wood in Chatham, NY. He grew up there and attended Chatham Central School. Donald enlisted in the United States Army and after initial training as an infantryman, he was assigned to the 198th Infantry Battalion, 19th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater of Operation. While stationed in the Aleutian Islands of Attu and Kiska, he attained the rank of PFC. For his service PFC Donald C. Wood was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal and the Bronze Star.

Elizabeth Kerner was born June 24, 1919 to Charles and Lola (Wolven) Kerner in Ghent, NY. Growing up in Ghent, she attended the Chatham Central School. In 1935 she went on to receive a nursing degree (RN) at Vassar Hospital in Poughkeepsie, NY. As a private nurse Elizabeth enlisting in the United States Army Reserves in July 25, 1941 and then entered active duty on November 3, 1944. 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kerner was assigned to the Army Nurse Corps in the European Theater of Operation. Serving five months in England and France, she then returned to the United States where she continued to serve in Atlantic City, NJ with Section I 3440 Area Service Unit Station Medical. 1st Lt. Kerner was discharged on June 30, 1949 at Fort Benning, GA and until June 22, 1957, she continued to serve as a nurse in the United States Army Reserves. 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kerner was awarded the EAME Campaign Medal and the WWII Victory Medal.

Donald and Elizabeth met and married on October 1, 1949. They lived in Chatham where they raised three children: Lola, Linda and Charles. Charles worked as a printer/type setter for the Chatham Courier while Elizabeth practiced as a nurse with Dr. Marks and Dr. Greitzer in their pediatric family practice. Donald was a member of the Ghent Sportsman's Association, former Post Commander of Chatham American Legion Post 42, as well as Past President of the Ghent Volunteer Fire Company #1. Both Donald and Elizabeth were members of the Ghent, VFW Post 5933.

Donald C. Wood died on April 4, 1981 and Elizabeth, who would live another 25 years, died on April 14, 2006. She was buried next to her husband in Ghent Union Cemetery. He was 62 years old, she was 86.