



# Clair Calvin Gardner

MAY 29, 1923 - FEB 8, 2015



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## Clair Calvin Gardner

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**C**lair Calvin Gardner, 91, of Fort Myers, formerly of Viroqua, Wisconsin, died February 8, 2015 at Hope Hospice House in Fort Myers. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. In Lieu of flowers, memorials in the Fort Myers area may be left to Hope Hospice. In Lieu of flowers, memorials in the Wisconsin area may be left to Bekkedahl – Bland Hospice House. Clair was born May 29, 1923 in Doland, SD, the son of Bruce B. and Evelyn (Dutilly) Gardner. He married Betty Rehn in Chicago, IL, February 9, 1946. Clair served in the US NAVY from 1942 – 1945 in the European Theater during WW II. As a civilian he worked as an accountant for Vernon Memorial Hospital. After his retirement, he worked for 20 years at Walmart in the sporting goods department. He enjoyed his involvement with the Sanibel Shell Crafters. He also enjoyed fishing, camping, canoeing and snowmobiling. Clair is survived by his wife; daughter, Catherine Peterson and her husband Dale of Fort Myers; and grandchild, Ryan Peterson and his wife Shannon of LaCrosse, WI. He was preceded in death by his parents; and siblings Arnold, Russell, Marvin, Florence and Marshall. The Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Mr. Gardner. Condolences may be left to the family at [www.fortmyersmemorial.com](http://www.fortmyersmemorial.com).



## Tribute Wall

**Clair Calvin Gardner**

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SR

**Sue Ross** posted:

Clair's personhood was as a gift from the sea, his gentle and beautiful demeanor glistened as the shells sparkled touching the shores that he so loved. His generosity and his loving smiles embracing all around him, touched us all with that sparkle. I enjoyed his tutor and any opportunity to work and learn along side him. My deepest sympathy to you Betty and to your family, Clair's life touched everyone, he will be forever tucked in our hearts. Love, Sue Ross

February 13 at 8:02 AM

VR

**Vicki Ross** posted:

I feel very fortunate to have known Clair, though the Shellcrafters, as a very happy man despite the trials and tribulations he has been through in recent years. He has set a wonderful example to all of us. Amazing his dedication to making so many thousands of "critters", or shell novelties, over the years. While I was sure Clair would keep making critters for the foreseeable future!, I purchased a collection of my favorites at the Shell Fair a few years ago, knowing he made most of them. They are I. My display case and I think of Clair and Betty every time I go by it. Thank you Clair, Rest in Peace. Prayers to your family for their comfort at this time. Vicki Ross

February 12 at 10:58 AM

PS

**Pat Schneider** posted:

Betty, My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. What a sweet and gentle soul Claire was. I'm so happy I got to see you both at the Potluck. I will always cherish the little tools he made for me to make my jewelry making easier. I hope you will come back to Shell Crafters, even if it is to visit. We miss your smiling face. Love, Pat Schneider

February 12 at 6:38 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Clair by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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