Frederick “Duane” Baillie – BS 1954 Pharmacy

Frederick Duane Baillie was born to Fred and Cora (Dubay) Baillie on September 8, 1926 at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Rugby, North Dakota. He died peacefully at the age of 94 years on Monday, November 30, 2020 at the Heart of America Medical Center in Rugby, North Dakota.

Duane was born and raised in Rugby. He graduated from Rugby High School in 1944 and attended the University of North Dakota until he was drafted into the Army. He left UND and worked at Good Samaritan Hospital lab until he entered active service January 14, 1945. After 18 weeks of basic training as a rifleman, he returned to Rugby on a short leave; his childhood sweetheart Irene was home from nurses training at the same time. He reported to Ft. Ord, California for departure by troop ship to Leyte, Philippine Islands, where he was assigned to the 81st Infantry Division Special Troops Medical Detachment. The Japanese surrendered and the Division was sent to occupation duty at Aomori in northern Honshu, Japan. The 81st Division was deactivated, and Duane was transferred to the 8th Army Headquarters Special Troops Medical Detachment in Yokohama, Japan. After a year, Duane was honorably discharged, and he returned to UND in Grand Forks.

Duane married Irene Volk on July 24, 1950 and transferred to pharmacy school at North Dakota State University in Fargo. He had been there three months when they received notice of available vets housing the same day Duane received notice of reactivation to the Korean Theater of Operations with the 382nd General Hospital of Ft. Lewis, Wash. Irene arrived the day Duane was scheduled to ship and was able to be on the dock as the troop ship left. A military band was playing “Good Night Irene”. After returning from Japan and the Korean War in 1952, Duane joined Irene in Fargo and re-entered the NDSU School of Pharmacy. They lived in a veteran’s housing duplex (tin huts) near the campus until graduation in 1954. The couple moved to Rugby and Duane joined his father and brother in pharmacy at Baillie’s Drug Store. Duane’s dad died in 1965, but he and his brother, Dan continued in to operate the drugstore until July 2000 when White Drug in Rugby purchased the store. Duane worked for them for seven months before retiring.

Duane remained active in, and at one time was president of the North Dakota Pharmacy Association, from which he received the distinguished Bowl of Hygeia award. He was also an active member of the Rugby Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, Knights of Columbus, Lion’s Club, Rugby Eagles, ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve), Last Man’s Club, and was a long time board member of Citizen’s State Bank as it evolved into Bremer Bank.
Duane is survived by his son, Frederick (Angela) Baillie of Rugby; daughter, Barbara (Robert) Kennedy of St. Paul, Minnesota; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren; other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife of 70 years, Irene; brother, Daniel (Ione) Baillie; sister, Bernice (Gerald) Bradley; one granddaughter and his parents.