



George A. Merkel, Sr.
December 2, 1942 – February 28, 2012

George Merkel, a member of our club for over 26 years, passed away at home on February 28, 2012 from a sudden heart attack. George was active in the GWC for the entire time he belonged; working parking at Sully; serving on the Board of Directors in different capacities; and running our monthly meeting concessions and 50/50 raffles for 22 years.

George was not only active in the GWC with his '31 Standard Tudor and '29 Open Cab Pickup, but in the Southern Maryland Model A Club as well. He was also active in the National Capital V-8 Club with his '50 Mercury, '50 Ford Pickup and '50 Ford Coupe. The Small Parts Days he, and just this past April 28, Janet, hosted at the Merkel Farm were not only productive repair opportunities, but also fun social and constructive inter-club events.

George liked to say his favorite song was "The Sunny Side of the Street," and that's how he lived his life. Always quick with a joke, he excelled as a gentle prankster blessed with the timing of a late night TV talk show host. As "Reverend Grab-a-Dollar" he passed the hat for many a fictitious collection, but as the devoted man of God and family he was, he gave back to his church and his fellow man with a generosity rarely seen.

George was a painter for 39 years, who, during his career worked on some of the most iconic buildings not only in America, but the world: the White House; the Library of Congress; and the National Archives. After retiring in 1998, George devoted himself to enjoying his "golden" years.

George Merkel was part of the fabric of the GWC; he is, and will continue to be, missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Janet, their 3 sons, and their 7 grandchildren.