

Photo of the Month

Al Morsani



E.A. and Al Morsani
Rogers, Arkansas
Neg: NO16962
Mary Ann Henry

Al Morsani, who would later become a champion for the Benton Country Sunshine School and a recipient of the Rogers Good Neighbor Award, had small beginnings to say the least. Al

Morsani was born March 13, 1926 in Paris, Texas to Elvidio Morsani and Marie Zoeller. This photo, taken later that year, shows Al bravely standing in the palm of his father's hand. While Al was not the smallest baby (that record is held by Rumaisa Rahman at 8.6 oz), he sure wasn't the biggest guy around. In his later years he would be described as "a small man with a big heart."

After serving in the U.S. Merchant Marines for seven years, Morsani went to work at the Frisco Railways as a telegrapher. Upon retiring in 1985 he began to raise money for the Benton County Sunshine School, a school that teaches developmentally challenged children. Every Friday he would prepare and sell meals to the community with all proceeds being donated to the BCSS. Another of his more famous stints was his annual New Year's Eve parties in which he would serve food and provide a good party, not only to raise money but to try and prevent people from drinking and driving.

After his death in 1997, Morsani was awarded with the Good Neighbor Award for his work with the BCSS. Al Morsani achieved many great things in life, being a champion to children and a friend to all. Although he started small, Morsani truly achieved big things.