



William Henry Ryan

October 18, 1924 - January 13, 2018

William Henry Ryan, age 93, died on Saturday, January 13 at St. Francis Hospital after suffering a massive stroke. He was born in 1924 in Oklahoma City. He is preceded in death by wife Patricia and their daughter Kathleen Annabell. He is survived by their other two daughters and their husbands: Nancy Flinchum and husband, Gary; Susan Evans and husband, Bill. He also leaves behind their grandchildren, Jim Bouakadakis and Jessi Mayfield, as well as two great grandchildren, Hollie and Collin. He is also survived by wife and companion of 20 years, Kathy, and her children, Joe, Scott, Laura, Angie and Jeff. From a very young age, Bill worked odd jobs to help support his mother and his four siblings. His strong work ethic was carried with him throughout his life, and was passed down to his children, grandchildren and everyone who worked with him. He joined the US Navy at the age of 18, serving as a gunner on the USS Essex in the Pacific theater during World War II. He was an architectural student at University of Oklahoma and practiced architecture in Oklahoma City and Tulsa for over 60 years, reluctantly retiring at the tender age of 92. He was a member of the American Institute of Architects, and a founding member of its Eastern Oklahoma Chapter. Among others, his outstanding design achievements include the Church on the Hill in Broken Arrow, East Central High School, and the Rose Bowl on Route 66. These Tulsa landmark buildings are a testimony to his unique and pioneering touch. He was a pilot, a woodcarver, a writer, an artist, and a grand story teller. He shared his love of all kinds of music and fine arts with his family. He enjoyed photography and playing the harmonica. He lived his life fearlessly with passion and gusto. He did things others were afraid to try. His legacy lives on in the people who loved him and the lives he has touched. Memorial Service will be 3:00 PM, Friday, January 19th, Floral Haven Funeral Home Chapel.

Comments



“ I’ve thought about you a lot over the years my friend. I really enjoyed spending time with you and listening to your stories. As much as I enjoyed the motorcycle rides to your house, it was the time with you that left a lifelong impression that I carry with me. I’m deeply saddened that you have moved on but I am happy that you are in a better place and with Kathleen. What a reunion that must have been. I wish I hadn’t let so much time pass since our last visit but I will see you again. Thanks for being there during some rough times for me. Jim

Jim Lane - May 24, 2018 at 11:34 AM