

William Edward "Bill Reed" Reed



William Edward Reed "Bill Reed" August 26, 1922 - June 20, 2011 Bill Reed was born in the coal mining town of Hillside, Kentucky on August 26, 1922. His family moved to the copper mining town of Bisbee, Arizona in 1936. Bill worked delivering newspapers and groceries during high school. In ninth grade he met the love of his life, Patricia Lorraine Ashby. They dated throughout high school and were married on March 31, 1941. Bill and Pat moved to Fort Huachuca, Arizona where Bill entered a Navy apprenticeship training program working for the Civil Service as a refrigeration mechanic. They had three children, William Arthur, Richard Alfred, and Patricia Dianne Reed. After joining the Seabee's (Construction Battalion) on October 27, 1943, Bill was assigned duty in the Navy aboard the

Dixie Class Destroyer Tender, The USS Yosemite, with the rank of Machinist's Mate Second Class. His tour of duty included action in the South Pacific during World War II. Bill was honorably discharged from the Navy on December 31, 1945. He moved his family to China Lake Naval Weapons Center in November 1946 where he continued to work for the Civil Service as a refrigeration, air conditioning mechanic. After retiring on disability in June 1969, they moved to Bakersfield where they currently reside. It is truly a testimonial to their love and devotion that Bill and Pat just celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on March 31, 2011. Bill passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his beloved wife and children. He is preceded in death by his son Richard Alfred who died at birth; his mother and father Isabella and Fountain Reed; and his sister and brother-in-law Marjorie and Lee Warner. He is survived by his wife Patricia Lorraine, son William Arthur, daughter Patricia Dianne, nephew Dr. Raymond Lee Warner and his children Mara Jones and Lee Daniel Warner; Grandchildren William E. and his wife Lisa Reed, Suzanne Reed and her husband Diego Hernandez, Lucinda Reed and her partner Raymond McDermant; Great Grandchildren Emelia, Lila, Fountain, Carolina, and Jaime along with countless other family and friends who were blessed to know him. The family would like to thank Dr. James Saiki, MD, and the Mercy-Memorial Hospice staff and nurses for their support and attentiveness during Bill's final days here on earth. Graveside services will be held at the Bakersfield National Cemetery, 30338 East Bear Mountain Blvd., Arvin, CA, Tuesday, July 5, at 9:15 a.m. For more information, please contact Alma Funeral Home, (661) 638-0444. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The American Legion, Post 26, or the charity of your choice. www.bakersfield.com/obits

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