James Carl Cope

October 14, 1921 ~ November 17, 2016

James Carl Cope completed his mortal journey on November 17, 2016. He was 95 years old. Born on October 14, 1921 in Richfield, Utah, he was the 6th of 9 children. He became an orphan just after his 5th birthday. James graduated from Richfield High School in 1939, and thereafter secured employment as a typist for the Veteran\s Administration in New York and Washington D.C. After Pearl Harbor James enlisted in the United States Army and eventually served as a navigator on a B-24 bomber in the South Pacific. He returned to the U.S. in late 1945.

On his way back to his family he stopped in Springdale, Utah where he met Carma Johnson. A romance began but they decided to delay marriage so James could serve a 2-year mission in the Pacific Northwest. They were married on February 6, 1948 in the St. George Temple. They began their family while James was still in college. After graduating from Brigham Young University in 1951, he accepted his first teaching job in a one-room schoolhouse in Garrison, Utah where he taught for two years. Then James moved his family to the Central Valley of California where he taught elementary school for 5 years in Corcoran and Hanford before transitioning to teaching Special Education until his retirement in 1986. After his retirement, he and his wife served in the Los Angeles, Oakland and Fresno temples.

In 2008 James and his wife moved back to Utah to be closer to their family. James always remembered the one-half acre lot on Beulah Street and the small home he built that sheltered his family for 51 years.

James is survived by his brother Richard L. Cope (Joan) of Glendora California, and five of his six children: James M. Cope (Merrily), A. Lynn Cope (Debbie), Edward L. Cope (Courtney), Cheryl A. Cope, and John C. Cope (Ann). He has 20 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife Carma Johnson Cope, and his daughter Geneva C. Bentley (Steven).

Funeral services for James will be held on Tuesday November 22, 2016 at 12 noon at the Larkin Mortuary, 260 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah where family and friends many come from 11:00 to 11:45 prior to the services. Interment at Salt Lake City Cemetery.