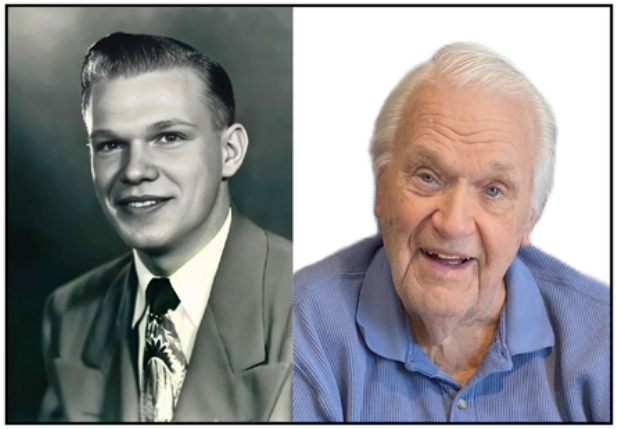

Willard Ram Henriksen

January 11, 1932 ~ October 7, 2024

Willard Ram Henriksen passed away peacefully at home on October 7, 2024. He was attended to by many loving family members. He was born January 11, 1932 to John and Aagot Henriksen and was the youngest of four children. He was born in Salt Lake City where he resided his entire life.

He graduated from South High School in 1949 where he played on the basketball and football teams. He attended the University of Utah and graduated with a bachelor's degree in science in 1956. He worked as an accountant and never really retired. He continued to balance ledgers and prepare taxes until his death. He was an avid University of Utah fan and held season tickets for basketball and football for many years. He loved his Utes.

He received a mission call to Norway from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, but was unable to serve as a missionary when he was called to serve his country in the Army. He served in the Army as a baker and worked in the pastry shop. He tells stories of getting up pre-dawn to bake thousands pies each day. He was honorably discharged in 1954.

In 1955 he married Jerre Spillman in the Salt Lake LDS temple for time and all eternity. They started their family in 1957. Willard found great joy in his role as husband, dad, grandad, and great-grandad. He loved food and showed his love through an abundance of foods he prepared. Willard made and decorated many birthday cakes for his children, including fun animal shapes. He loved homemade ice cream and there was usually an ice cream machine churning in the background of most family events. He loved making candy especially during the holiday season. He excelled at peanut brittle, caramel, and fudge. He taught his children his un-written recipes and passed down the delicious traditions.

Willard loved his family, they were always a top priority for him. He attended many of his grandchildrens sporting events in state and out of state. He went to recitals and programs. He went to baby blessing events, high school and college graduations, and weddings. His family brought him great joy. He especially loved to tease and joke with all of us.

Willard was an avid golfer and played whenever and wherever he could. He was still golfing in July of this year. He also loved jigsaw puzzles and enjoyed relaxing at his puzzle table. He was a hard worker and a great provider for his family. He enjoyed physical labor and took great pride in having his yard look nice. He loved being outside in the fresh air and sunshine.

Willard is preceded in death by his parents, his three older siblings and their spouses, and many friends. He was the last leaf on the tree. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Jerre Spillman Henriksen. His four children: daughter Jill Ecker, daughter Vicki Grunander (Pete), son Wade Henriksen (Tina), and son Craig Henriksen (Marcia). His posterity includes 14 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Thursday October 17, 2024 at Larkin Sunset Gardens located at 1950 E. Dimple Dell Road in Sandy Utah. There will be a viewing at 1:00-1:45 pm prior to the funeral services at 2:00. After the funeral there will be a graveside dedication ceremony.