

William A. Southern "Bill"

February 17, 1928 ~ May 22, 2024

William A. Southern, mostly known as “Bill”, 96, passed away May 22, 2024, in San Antonio, TX, surrounded by his son Gary and daughter-in-law, Heidi Southern. Bill was born February 17, 1928, to the late William and Mary Isabella Southern in Salt Lake City, UT, and was the youngest of 4 children. Bill graduated from West High School in 1946, and later married his high school sweetheart, Irene L. Poole in the Salt Lake Temple on March 28, 1949. Together they spent 70 wonderful years until her passing July 27, 2019.

Shortly after their marriage, he was called to serve in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict and was stationed at Camp Pendleton near Oceanside California and later finished his service in Germany. Newly married, Irene moved to California and lived just off base to be close to him and spent as much time as allowed together as newlyweds. Bill was a dedicated father to his children and was one of the oldest fathers on the street, which did not deter him from playing front yard football or basketball with his son and the neighborhood boys. He was also a dedicated worker, having many jobs as a youth he finally began his career with the O.C. Tanner Company at the age of 18, and retiring after 49 years with them as Executive of Production.

Bill was a devout member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served as a High Priest in the Grandview 2nd Ward, now Kenwood 1st Ward. He had many callings, including Young Men’s Presidency and Ward Clerk. He was an avid golfer and close to a scratch handicap in his younger years, but never achieved the alluring Hole-in-one! He taught his son to play and was passionate about coaching and supporting him during his amateur days. He put down the clubs at age 94, but at that time he was still looking for distance.

During the years his family was young, he loved to travel and take summer vacations with them. Visiting many places across the U.S. including World Fairs, Mount Rushmore, Washington D.C. and one of his favorites, Disneyland. After his children had grown, he traveled to many other places with his sweetheart, including PGA Golf Events, The Rose Bowl Parade, and a few tours thru Europe.

Bill is preceded in death by his parents, wife Irene, siblings; Victor, Maxine, and Joseph, and daughter Lorraine Dimmick (Bill). Survived by his son, Gary W. Southern (Heidi), 4 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Special thanks to Pacific Hospice and Doris Patterson-Rodriguez and her wonderful staff at 32 Heavenly Hands in San Antonio for their loving care.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at the Salt Lake City Cemetery.