



Gilbert Theodore Schmidt

February 14, 1922 - February 14, 2014

Gilbert Theodore Schmidt, 92, passed away peacefully at his home in Rocklin, California February 14, 2014 with his devoted wife, Joyce Herrmann Schmidt, by his side. He was born in Hillje, Texas November 6, 1921 to Louis & Beatrice Polasek Schmidt and was preceded in death by his brother Edwin Schmidt and sister Martha Holub, both of El Campo, TX. He is survived by his sister Henrietta Bures of El Campo, TX and sister Aileen Chumchal & husband Irvin of Wharton, TX. He is also survived by his wife Joyce of Rocklin, CA, his daughter Marsha Van der Boom & husband Tom Gibbs of Loomis, CA, his son & daughter-in-law, Gary & Wendy Schmidt of Newport Beach, CA, five grandchildren, Gant Van der Boom & wife Ashley of Rocklin, CA, Garret Van der Boom of Brooklyn, NY, Gavin Schmidt of Newport Beach, CA, Cologne Schmidt of Los Angeles, CA, & Cannon Schmidt of Paso Robles, CA, plus two great grandchildren Carter & Finley Van der Boom of Rocklin, CA.

Gilbert attended school in El Campo, graduating in the Class of 1941. His military career began on July 14, 1942 serving with the United States Army during World War II as a 1st Lieutenant seeing duty in the Philippines with the 77th Infantry Division which arrived in Tokyo Bay as Japan surrendered. Upon his return to the United States he married Joyce Lorraine Herrmann at St. Philips the Apostle Catholic Church in El Campo, Texas on August 21, 1946. In 1947 he joined the United States Air Force and was assigned to duty in

California, Brazil, Germany, Italy, & France. He retired from the Air Force in 1965 as a Senior Master Sergeant with 22 years active service and continued with the Reserves until 1973 completing 30 years of service to his country. He belonged to the Rocklin American Legion Post 620.

Gilbert had an extraordinary capacity to take on a variety of tasks. After his military career he restored automobiles, built houses and repaired everything large and small. It was as if there was no job beyond his ambition or ability. Passionate about electronics and despite failing vision, Gilbert was still active on his computer until the very last days of his life. In fact, on his 92nd birthday, his only request was for a new computer.

In recent years Gilbert enjoyed visiting his son's vineyard in Paso Robles, California. Many hours were spent discussing a variety of interesting, current topics (mostly politics) over a glass of fine wine or touring local wineries & cellars. Many family celebrations occurred at the vineyard including Gilbert's 90th birthday party where he was fortunate enough to be joined by a contingency of relatives from El Campo, Texas.

Although Gilbert traveled all over the world and resided mainly in Northern California, he kept El Campo, Texas close to his heart. Through connecting with relatives, and maintaining a subscription to the El Campo Leader News, Gilbert was never far removed from his Texas roots. We will miss the thoughtful words of this kind and gentle man and will forever hold him in our hearts.

Visitation will be from 9 – 10 am on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at St. Philip Catholic Church followed by funeral services at 10 am with the Reverend Michael Rother officiating. Graveside services will follow at Garden of Memories Cemetery under the auspices of the American Legion Post 251.

Pallbearers are Tom Gibbs, Gant Van der Boom, Garret Van der Boom, Wes Chumchal, Rick Schmidt, and Billy Schmidt. Honorary pallbearers are Sam Trude and Corey Anderson.

In lieu of flowers, contributions are appreciated in Gilbert Schmidt's honor to independencfund.org providing all-terrain wheelchairs to wounded veterans.

Memories and condolences may be left for the family online at www.triskafuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

MU

“ We are so sorry that we were unable to be at Uncle Gilbert's funeral. I bet it was beautiful as he is loved by so many family members and friends. My deepest sympathies goes out to you Aunt Joyce and Cousin Gary. Please let me know if there is anything I can do. Love you all!

Melissa (Herrmann) - daughter of Carl Herrmann and Alexander Moo - Pearland, TX - uncle - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I met Gilbert and Joyce only once in 1988. I was researching descendants of my Smykal ancestors and was able to meet with a wonderful group of cousins near El Campo, Texas. Joyce and Gilbert were visiting on one of their trips from California. A memorable day for me.

On 13 February 2014 I passed through Placerville while traveling to Lake Tahoe for a grandson's wedding of Valentine's Day. I thought of the Schmidt family and wished that I was able to contact them. How sad I was to learn that Gilbert passed away the next day.

I was unable to attend the funeral today but I am keeping all of the family in my prayers. I know Our Lord will be with you at this time of sorrow. I will send a donation to the Independence Fund in honor and memory of Gilbert,

In sympathy, Cecilia Forrest

Cecilia Pingnot Forrest - Houston, TX - cousin - March 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“Gib was always filled with such joy and happiness! You could see the love he had for his family whenever they were together. We will always remember his kind spirit. Our hearts go out to Joyce, Gary, Marsha and their families.

"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."

Jodi Barr, John Young, Austin Boyd & Jaclyn Boyd - Gilroy, CA - Friends and Family - February 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“We send our sincere sympathy to the whole family. We have many happy memories of time spent with Gib and Joyce.....holidays, and visits to the ranch. Gib will never be forgotten.

Don and Iola Barr - Palm Desert, CA - Friends - February 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“Our warmest condolences to Joyce, Marsha, Gary and your fine families. He will be missed by many. Gib was a kind and gentle man. I have always appreciated his patriotism and love of his family. We are privileged to have shared several celebrations with him. Cherish the fond memories of his 92 years. Peace be with you all. ~ Amy and Bill Nacca

Amy and Bill Nacca - Huntington Beach, CA - friend and family - February 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM