

Harold Thomas (Tom) Sanders



Harold Thomas Sanders, 92, died on February 24, 2020 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. His memorial service will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at the St. Andrews Episcopal Church with Reverend Mary Korte officiating. Strode Funeral Home and Cremation is entrusted with his arrangements.



He was born on March 8, 1927 in St. Joseph, Missouri to Ernest P.J. and Pharine E. Sanders and attended Benton High School and later St. Joseph Jr. College majoring in Pre-Engineering. He married Velma Zeller on March 26, 1950 in Onaga, Kansas and she died on August 24, 2013.

He served in WWII, Korea and the Vietnam wars and retired from the Air Force in 1970 after which he moved to Stillwater. At that time, he founded Anson Fire Safety and after selling the company he was employed by the Payne County Assessor's office. After retiring from the assessor's office, he became the co-owner of Countryside Studios with his wife Velma and pursued his love of rocks and silversmithing he made many pieces of fine jewelry and enjoyed traveling the country to craft shows. His family still enjoys his creative talents and the pieces are now special treasures to them. He became a member of the American Legion and was a member of the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Elks, Mason, VFW and Toastmasters, as well as, the Stillwater Mineral and Gem Society. Harold was also a lay reader for Diocese of Dallas in 1966.

Preceding him in death were his wife and parents; sister, Louise Nidy; son, Mark Sanders; and great-grandson Cameron Ray.

He is survived by 4 children Irene (John) Cook of Florida, Kathy Akin of Texas, John (Becky) Sanders of Meridian, Oklahoma, and Lee (Evelyn) Sanders of Stillwater, Oklahoma. Also, 13 grandchildren; Kari, Stacy, Kim, Sarah, Laura, Josh, Leslie, Shaun, Kristie, Heather, Stephanie, Michael and Chase and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Acting as Honorary Pallbearers will be Michael Sanders, Chase Sanders, Shaun Sanders, Joshua Kopren, Darren Grissom and Joshua Whitefield.

Harold T. Sanders was Post Commander Hanner-Sharp American Legion Post 129 1977-1978 and served 45 years in the Hanner-Sharp American Legion Post 129, Stillwater.