

Robert Joseph “Bob” Williams



Robert Joseph “Bob” Williams, 88, passed away at his home in Ardmore, Oklahoma, on Friday, Aug. 7, 2015. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, at The Chapel at Griffin-Hillcrest with the Rev. Bob Lee officiating. Cremation services to follow with Hillcrest Crematory. There will be an interment service at a later date at Sunset Memorial Park in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Bob was born on March 12, 1927, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to Ralph Huntington Williams and Ada Elizabeth (Hitt) Williams. He attended Capitol Hill High School and was drafted into the U.S. Army during his senior year.

Bob served his country during World War II in the 188th Parachute Infantry Regiment as a paratrooper and received the Army of Occupation in Japan Medal and the World War II Victory Medal in 1946. Bob was honorably discharged on Jan. 16, 1947. Bob married

Miss Doris Lee Smith in 1948 in Stillwater, Oklahoma, and the couple moved to Wichita, Kansas, and he worked for a short time for Boeing. The couple moved back to Stillwater in 1953, and Bob took a position with Stillwater Carpet and Upholstery as a custom upholsterer for his father. In 1965, they moved to Whittier, California, where he worked as a carpet installer. He returned to work at Stillwater Carpet in 1970 and then for Shorts. During this time, five children were born to the couple. In 1976, his first marriage ended.

He met Cathren Ann Borgelt at University Heights Baptist Church’s singles group and the couple married on Feb. 20, 1982, in Stillwater. He began working at Oklahoma State University as an upholsterer and in 1997, retired. The couple moved to Ardmore, Oklahoma, in July 1997 to be close to his family. In his retirement, he built a shop and continued doing custom upholstery work. Bob joined Frontier Lodge #48 serving as Master for two terms and was the youngest to serve as a Master Mason in Stillwater and is the oldest living past Master of Oklahoma. He achieved 32nd Degree Mason, and was a member of Knights Templar, York Rite, Scottish Rite and India Shrine. Bob was also a member of Eastern Star, Amaranth Court, and the Oklahoma Country Boys Degree Team. After moving to Ardmore, Bob served as Master Mason of Lone Grove #27. He has served as a Mason for 57 plus years. Bob was a member of American Legion, a life member of the VFW, and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Ardmore, Okla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Ada Williams, son, Donnie Williams and brother, Charles Williams.

Bob is survived by his wife, Cathren Williams, of the home; children: Mike Williams and wife, Judy, Steve Williams, Bill Williams and wife, Rita, and April Fillman and husband, Mark; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; siblings: Eula Faye Dougherty, Bill C. Williams, Betty GoodEagle and Thomas E. Williams and wife, Delta.

A visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015, at Griffin-Hillcrest, Ardmore, Oklahoma. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Bob’s name to Cross Timbers Hospice, 207 C St NW, Ardmore, OK 73401, or to the charity of your choice.