Eldon Reed Russell(1932 - 2016)





Eldon Reed Russell

February 9, 1932 - March 27, 2016

Salem - Eldon Reed Russell, passed away surrounded by his family on March 27, 2016 at the age of 84.

He was born in Marion, Oregon on Feb 9, 1932, the last surviving of four sons born to Harold and Elizabeth Russell. He graduated from Cascade High School in 1950 and pitched the winning game for the State Championship on his sophomore year. He joined the army in 1952 and fought in Korea where he served doing intelligence recognizance.

He returned to the United States after his service to pursue his baseball career. He was drafted by the St Louis Browns and played several years in AA and AAA teams. In 1955 a shoulder injury ended his career with the Wichita Indians. He returned to Salem and landed a job in Willamette Industries in Dallas Oregon, where he went to school and became a millwright. In 1968 he left the mill to start a nursery business. In 1975 he went into business on his own as owner and operator of Russell's Landscape Service until he retired in 1996.

He enjoyed golfing, bird hunting, gardening, and watching his grandchildren's baseball and football games. Eldon loved people. He was known for his booming voice and laugh, his jokes and his love of family. Wherever he went there was someone he knew.

He was preceded by his brothers Wilbur Sidney Russell, Eugene Harold Russell Jr, Stanley Leo Russell; and step-daughter Penny Laurose Way. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Barbara Laurose Russell; his son, Gregory Reed Russell; his daughter, Rhonda Lynn Russell of Salem; and his grandchildren, Justin Reed Russell, Nathan Blake Russell, Cameron Jacob Prozinski, and Alicia Jean Prozinski.

His surviving family will carry on his love of life.

Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 PM on April 9, 2016 at City View Funeral Home in Salem. Interment with full military honors will be Monday, April 11th at 1:30 PM at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Oregon.

Funeral Home City View Funeral Home and Cemetery 390 Hoyt St. South Salem, OR 97302 (503) 363-8652

Published in StatesmanJournal on Apr. 3, 2016