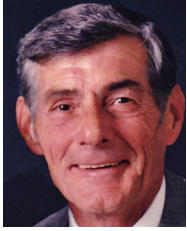

Alan Dale Ihde(1927 - 2016)

May 31, 1927 - April 2, 2016 Alan Ihde passed away peacefully at age 88 on April 2, 2016, in West Hills, California, after a long battle with respiratory issues and diabetes. His family had been by his side for the past several weeks before he went home to the Lord. Born in Yankton, South Dakota, on May 31, 1927, Alan was raised in Sioux City, Iowa, before moving to Los Angeles in 1943 with his parents Warren and Harriet (Wenger) Ihde and younger brother Craig. It was during these years that Alan developed a love for baseball (a great fastball, slider and change-up), electronics, and painting. These three skills would lead to many years of happiness for him and his family. After starring as a pitcher at Hamilton High School and then graduating, Alan married his sweetheart Betty Rebol and settled in Culver City. He was then quickly signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers organization (later traded to the Chicago Cubs) and began a seven year professional career as a pitcher in the late 1940s through 1956. Two arm surgeries ended his career, but he always said that he especially enjoyed his time in the old Pacific Coast League, playing for the Los Angeles Angels at historic Wrigley Field. After retiring from baseball, Alan began his career in the aerospace industry, working for Douglas Aircraft at their Santa Monica facility and at Pt Mugu on a special project for a combined fifteen years. He then spent several years as an entrepreneur, owning a Baskin Robbins franchise, an art store/frame shop, and a printing business before returning to aerospace at TRW. After a divorce, he married his second wife, Maryann (Freeland), in 1972, and settled in Westchester. Alan and Maryann had a wonderful marriage for nearly fifteen years, at which time a sudden illness took her from his arms. Alan retired in 1987, married Wilma (Hillig) and moved to West Hills where he spent 27 years enjoying many family events and even more grandchildren. They enjoyed traveling until health issues interfered. He was always by Wilma's side, as "Opa" to their nine grandchildren, sharing his life experiences, and cheering them on at their various graduations, sporting events, birthdays and concerts. From time to time Opa would pull aside one of his grandchildren and advise them on how to proceed and tackle life. They all looked up to him and admired his kindness, thoughtfulness, and twinkle in his eye. Throughout the last fifty years of Alan's life, family, friends and acquaintances were always amazed by his painting and portrait talents; from western landscapes to American Indians, from baseball legends to John Wayne. Alan had the knack for getting things perfect on canvas. He always found happiness standing in front of an easel, creating a new masterpiece! Alan is survived by his son Michael (Elena) Ihde, granddaughter Jennine (Chris) Burns and great-grandson Blake; daughter Wendy Sims, granddaughters Lauren and Whitney (Sims); step-daughter Lora (Dale) Robertson and step-son Steve Freeland; wife Wilma, her children Heidi (Dale) Roleder, Wendy (Brian) Kubond, Erich (Dana) Hillig and Trudi (Roger) Babich, and their grandchildren, Zack and Carly Roleder, Bryce and Brett Kubond, Ashley and Courtney Hillig, and Jake, Sandy and Gary Babich. His brother Craig (Barbara) Ihde also survives him. Jesus promises, "The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11:25) A Memorial Service will be held for Alan on Monday, April 11th at 10:30am at Westchester United Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson Ave, LA 90045. Internment to follow at 2:00 pm at Inglewood Cemetery.

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