

William Almon "Bill" Taft

Taft, William, Almon "Bill" Age 92, of Summit Township, Jackson, MI passed away peacefully in his sleep on November 24, 2016 at his home with family by his side. William was born August 18, 1924, Crystal City, TX. William is survived by his loving wife Irene Holdridge Taft, of 48 years 9 months; sister, Janet "Pat" (Richard) Westerman of Williamsburg, MI, brother Robert Taft of Jackson, sisters-in-law LouAnn Douglas, Bradenton, FL, Illa (Larry) Jessup, Palmetto, FL, Mary Gayle (Bill) Sayles, Horton, MI, brother-in-law Arthur (JoAnne) Holdridge I, Jackson, special nephew and God Son Lester O. Holdridge III, and many nieces, nephews, great nieces, nephews and great great nieces. He was an employee of Aeroquip Corporation for 35 years and was a long time member of the Jackson Old Timers Baseball Club, and a card club. Bill was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church for 49 years serving in assisting with the care of the landscaping for many years and in other capacities. He had a strong Christian Faith and immensely trusted in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Bill loved baseball and was a star pitcher at U of M helping pitch U of M to either a win or tie in two Big 10 Championships in 1948 and 1949. After graduating from U of M he signed a Minor League Contract with the former Boston Braves. Due to persistent pain in his right shoulder, he gave up baseball and was hired at Aeroquip Corporation where he served in various capacities in Production Control and Sales for 35 years and was Government Contract Administrator when he retired. Bill was preceded in death by his parents Lloyd N. and Clara Zuercher Taft, sisters Betty J. (Ed) Woods, and Marguerite "Mickey" (Dale) Rosling, brother Jack, sisters-in-law Louise Taft, and Alice Coy (Earl) Smith, brothers-in-law, Lester O. II (Delores) Holdridge, and Russell (LouAnn) Douglas. Bill served in the USA Army Signal Corps during WWII 1943-1946. He was an old car enthusiast owning several antique and classic cars and participated in many car shows in Jackson and surrounding areas. We wish to thank Dr. Michael Foust, MD, and Great Lakes Caring special RN Monica McNair and Trisha, RN, for their kind and loving care. According to his wishes, cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, (122 W. Wesley St., Jackson, MI) on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, at 11:00am with Military Honors. Visitation from 10:00am until 10:45am. Interment will take place at Roseland Memorial Gardens at a later date. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church or School or a [charity of your choice](#) .



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Chas J. Burden & Son
1806 E. Michigan Ave.

Funeral Home**Chas. J. Burden & Son Funeral Home**

1806 East Michigan Ave Jackson, MI 49202

(517) 784-3104

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