



Yale Whitmer

December 1, 1928 - October 21, 2017

Yale Whitmer, devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, went home to heaven on Oct. 21, 2017. He was 88.

Yale was born in Chicago to A. Yale and Helen Whitmer on Dec. 1, 1928 and graduated high school from Marmion Academy in Aurora, Illinois. The family, which included Yale's sister, Carol Chausse, moved to Houston when he was 21. He was soon drafted into the U.S. Army and served during the Korean Conflict, achieving the rank of first lieutenant before being honorably discharged.

He then came back to Houston and married his first wife, Camille, with whom he had three beautiful daughters. After Camille's sudden passing a few years later, he devoted himself to his daughters and began his career in sales, primarily office furniture. He eventually became regional manager for Lehigh-Leopold, the premier office furniture company in the U.S. for 102 years before its closing in 1990. He later worked in sales for Winebarger Church Furniture.

Before going to work for Lehigh-Leopold, Yale's great love of the sea and fishing led him to purchase a boat factory, Safari Yachts, where he built and sold specialty fishing boats. All throughout his life, he enjoyed cooking for his friends and family, and after he retired he developed a passion for the RV traveling life.

In 1981, he married Edwina Carlson in Newport Beach and became father to her three children, Gregg, Karen and Tom.

Yale is survived by his wife of 36 years, Edwina Whitmer; daughters, Julie Metkovich, Jayne (Anthony) Muscariello, Carol (John) Bender, and Karen (Mark) Fisher; sons, Gregg (Loretta) Carlson and Tom (Michele) Carlson; 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His parents and sister preceded him in death.

A celebration of Yale's life will be held at Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City on Monday, November 27, at 11:20 am. He will be interred in the Columbarium there. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that Yale's friends consider a donation to the Desert Southwest Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.