



## William "Bill" Bert Fern

February 11, 1923 - February 20, 2016

Age 93 of Detroit Lakes. Died February 20, 2016. Bill grew up in St. Paul, graduated from Washington High School - class of 1940. In 1941 he enlisted in the US Army Air Corps and served in Brazil, Ascension Island, and Germany as a Communications Chief with the rank of Master Sargent. Bill started his 38 year career with Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in St. Paul and was transferred to Detroit Lakes in 1957. He retired in 1984 as District Manager of Outside Plant Engineering/Construction for the Detroit Lakes and St. Cloud Districts. He was a 65-year member of the Masons, Scottish Rite and Osman Shrine Temple. Preceded in death by parents Bert and Lillian Fern, and Julia, wife of 64 years. Survived by 3 sons, Gregory (Connie) Eden Prairie, Douglas (Nancy) Detroit Lakes, Robert (Jere-lyn) Duluth; grandson, Bryan (Molly) Fern; granddaughters, Jenny (Reed) Engel and Ashley Fern; sisters-in-law, Violet Magnuson and Roswitha Holcomb; 4 great-grandsons, Carter, Brennan, Ashton, Aiden. Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2016 from 10AM to 12:00 Noon with the Memorial Service beginning at NOON in HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL FUNERAL HOME, 515 Highway 96 West, Shoreview, MN. Interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall

LL

“ Dear family. I am so sorry for your loss, your father, Bill. I remember the days when we all got together at Grandma Holcomb's house. Bill, Julia and kids lived right along side of Grandma and Gertie. Many, many memories. I so wish I could be there to say goodbye to Bill. Know that I am with you in spirit and heart. Take care, we will see each other again in the future. Always, Linda

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**Linda Holcomb Lundquist** - March 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ZF

“ So sorry for your loss. In recent years Bill would always remember me by name whether we were crossing paths at the grocery store or when he'd stop at the lumber yard for something. That always made me feel special. Love the Felt's

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**Zach Felt** - February 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM