



William Gray

February 6, 2007

Gray, William Robert Bill Gray, age 83, left our world on February 2nd to be with old friends and family. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Alma Jean; son, Michael and daughter, Jennifer. He also leaves behind a close family that loved him dearly, daughter-in-law, Nancy and granddaughters, Sara and Katie. Bill was raised on a cattle ranch near Garnett, Kansas. He joined the Navy Coast Guard in October, 1941. After the war began, he received special combat training and became a member of the Navy's Underwater Demolition Teams, serving with the 2nd Division of the Marine Corps in the Pacific. He was awarded a bronze star, a silver star and two purple hearts, the last one at Iwo Jima. Bill was a structural engineer and served most of his career in private industry, but his most enjoyable years were spent in the Army Corps of Engineers, where he managed locks and dams on the Mississippi River in the St. Paul district. Whether on the river, in the Boundary Waters, or just around the Minneapolis area lakes he loved being outdoors and was at peace near the water, preferably holding a fishing pole. His family will always remember his courage, strength and sense of humor. He was a gracious man, who always had a familiar request: take care of your Mom. Private burial at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. Memorials in his honor should be sent to: The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund; 825 College Blvd., Suite 102; PMB 609; Oceanside, CA, 92057 or www.semperfund.org. Memorial Service Thursday 2 PM at: Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 W. 50th St. & Hwy 100