



William Mallard Russell

JUN 4, 1915 - MAR 29, 2012



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Our precious father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, William Mallard Russell, 96, kissed his sweetheart and made his passage to well-deserved and peaceful rest on March 29, 2012. Born in Everton, Arkansas, on June 4, 1915, to Ambrose Roger Russell and Alma Jane Mallard.

Dad “hopped a freight train” during the great depression and sought his fortune in California, where he met and married his sweetheart and wife of 72 years, Liberty. Dad proudly graduated from Central High School in Muskogee, Oklahoma. He loved “mechanical drawing” and “glee club,” and had the most beautiful handwriting and baritone voice. Mother and Dad moved their three little girls in a tiny trailer to Utah in 1951. He has always called the home he built and the trees Mother planted his “Heaven on Earth.” Dad worked for many years as the “plant engineer” at Peter Pan Bakery. His favorite expression in recent years – used to express his unconditional zest for life – was “Heaven Can Wait.” And wait it did, until Thursday, March 29th, when he kissed his wife a temporary farewell and forged ahead to light our way, as he always has. Dad’s unwavering faith in God, his simplicity, his honesty, his love of nature, and rollicking humor are perpetual gifts to each of us, his family and many others who love him. Bill is survived by his devoted wife, Liberty; his only son, Bill; his daughters Jan (and the late Manuel) Nunes, Patricia Russell, Sharee (and Don) Kimball, and Rebecca Russell, as well as his first grandchild, Lisa Dorius, his most recent great-granddaughter Catherine Graves, and many other equally beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was preceded by his faithful black lab, Jake, who never let Dad out of his sight. Dad loved us all so well and we love him so much in return. Our favorite sound in the world is the sound of his tires driving up the road after work and honking his horn seven times.

The family would like to thank Brandi, Mayte, Camille, Johnny and others for their tender care. A celebration of his life will be held at the Church of Christ Murray Park,



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494 East 5300 South, on Thursday, April 5, at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, Dad's hope is for a donation to the Jimmy Carter Foundation or a charity of choice.



Tribute Wall

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DP

Diane Moore Parent posted:

Dear Bill & Family, I was very saddened to hear about the loss of your father. He was a wonderful person, enlightened the hearts of many. Memories will always be with you cherish them. Angie and Luie have a wonderful memory of the Sunday picnic with your father and mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you go through this day and the many ahead. Diane

April 5 at 7:08 AM

MS

Mary Jane Shimoda Siebenberg posted:

On this day and in the days ahead, may the love of those around you help lift the sorrow from your heart. With deepest sympathy, Mary Jane Shimoda Siebenberg

April 4 at 10:38 AM

CS

Ceil Rowley Stevenson posted:

To all of the Russell Family, How all of the great memories come flooding back. I will always treasure my childhood memories of Aunt Berty and Uncle Bill, Time moves to quickly. Just want you all to know how much we love you all and the special family times together. My heart is full and know how hard it is to let a loved one move on, but Uncle Bill will always be in my heart. He will live on in all our memories. Know we love you all! Ceil Rowley Stevemson

April 3 at 4:48 PM

JE

John And Marcia Ellisor posted:

From the moment we met Bill we knew he was a special spirit. Always feeding the widows and homeless, maintaining a home that was Eden on earth. He would quote 1 Corinthians 13:13, and lived by it. Bill was pure love and we will miss him dearly. See you again dear friend. Our deepest sympathy to his sweet companion, Liberty and thier family. Love, John and Marcia

April 3 at 1:03 PM

BR

Bill Russell, Jr. posted:

There's that cute Mulee! Rebecca sure dida super job on the text, winthelp from sisters.

April 2 at 6:39 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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