



Theodore (Ted) William Lawrence

July 1, 1913 - June 1, 2014

Ted was born in Jerico Springs, Missouri, oldest of three sons of William Arthur and Melinda Margaret (Nebelsick) Lawrence. Melba was the youngest daughter of Arthur LeRoy and Addie Alice (Lewis) Hildreth. Melba graduated from Ankeny H.S. in 1933 and attended Ankeny Jr. College.

Ted moved from Missouri to Iowa in 1935 where he met and married Melba. They lived in Ankeny until WWII, when they moved to Vancouver, WA, where Ted worked building troop transport ships and aircraft carriers for the military.

After the war, the family returned to Ankeny where Ted and Melba raised their three daughters. Ted built apartment buildings and over 60 homes in Ankeny until he retired in 1984. Melba raised their daughters and took care of the house and garden. She loved to sew and cook for family and friends.

Ted and Melba spent their summers with family and friends on Lake Washburn near Outing, MN. In 1966 they spent their first winter vacation in southern Texas and in 1979 settled in Wagon City in Mission, TX for their winter home. In 2003, Ted and Melba made Texas their full time home.

Ted and Melba's lives were testaments of love for each other and family. In many ways, they lived the American dream of finding love, working hard, raising a family, and living happy ever after. They were dedicated to helping their families, being a good neighbor and asked no favor in return. They celebrated 76 years love for each other in this life before Ted passed away. They are now united in eternal love.

Tribute Wall

GD

“ As a 42 year old bachelor I played golf with those two one time at Emily Greens. I remember Melba kept the scorecard. After every hole she would ask what we shot for that hole. She must have been watching Ted pretty close because she would sometimes remind him of a stroke or two that he missed. Ted did not argue with her at first but eventually he disagreed enough to confront her about his score on that last hole. Ted did not win that short confrontation. I remember the last thing Ted said...."Why Melba that's just not fair!" I thought that was kind of a cute "old married couple thing" at the time. Now after 25 years of being married I fully agree with Ted....it's NOT fair!

George DuBois - July 14, 2014 at 02:59 PM