

William Todd III

LT. Col William Neely "Bill" Todd III (U.S. Army Ret.) Born 29 November, 1920 in Toledo, Ohio, Bill Todd is the son of a career Army officer who was with the mounted cavalry. He grew up with stations mainly at cavalry posts in Texas and Kansas interspersed with overseas stations in the Philippines and China, where he became an expert horseman. After graduating from high school in 1938 in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, he promptly enlisted in the Army in 1939. He then received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. After graduation in 1944 Bill married the love of his life, Jean, whom he first saw in an Auburn University newspaper where she was modeling as a student. Right away he said he was going to marry that girl. He saw action in WWII as well as commanded three outposts on the 38th

parallel in Korea. He had a full and interesting career which included command and staff assignments in the United States, Europe, and the Far East with his wife and five children in tow. Bill holds Expert and Combat Infantry Badges and is rated as a Gliderman and Master Parachutist along with many more commendations and medals. Upon retirement from active service in 1967 he accepted a position as President and CEO of the Glenwood School for Boys near Chicago. At the time the Glenwood School was both a home and school for dependent and neglected boys from "broken" homes. Today the Glenwood School still thrives as a center of learning and a home for both boys and girls. To say that there were some interesting times would be a masterpiece of understatement, but the ten years spent there were the most satisfying and productive of his life. Bill and Jean returned to Texas in 1977 to care for his elderly parents who had retired to Round Rock in 1951. In addition to devoting himself to caring for his parents and his family he also devoted himself to the community of Round Rock. He worked tirelessly for the Kiwanis Club, Rotary, The Miss Round Rock Pageant, Frontier Days, and numerous other causes and events in the City of Round Rock. In 1995 the city awarded Bill the title of "Local Legend". He worked for a real estate development company for several years during which time he helped to restore and foster an old log cabin, circa 1830-1850, in the Wells Branch M.U.D. that currently stands as a centerpiece of the Wells Branch Parks. He went on to become the resident "Curator" of the "Homestead" in Wells Branch, where he became known familiarly as the "resident liar", and more formally as a folklorist. "A folklorist is commonly termed as a historian who doesn't pay too much attention to the facts." During his tenure at the Wells Branch Homestead he conducted regular tours explaining pioneer life in the mid and late 1800's for school children as well as adults, an estimated 150,000 of which during 16 years, have been exposed to a dash of Texas history and an appreciation of pioneer life. He became a participant in the Texas Folklife Festival held annually in San Antonio, where he was a fixture of the "Back 40" for many years telling stories and sharing his knowledge with thousands of visitors from Texas and around the world. Known to his 5 children, 11 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren as "Papa", he will always be remembered for his warm love, his humor, and his everlasting dedication to his family and many, many friends. The family greatly appreciates the high level of caring and love shown to Papa by his caregivers, his own A Team, Babs, Dodi, Arleen and Kris as well as Susan and Joe. Throughout his life he maintained the West Point creed of "Duty, Honor, Country". Bill is preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Jean, his son Will, and grandson Willie. He is survived by daughter Susan Todd Meyer and sons Joe, Tim, his wife Sally, Rick and his wife Deb; his grandchildren, Ben his mother Barbara, Emma, Jesse, Christy, Lindsey, Ryan, Amanda, Johnny, Jeanne and Juli; his great-grandchildren, Cali, Josephine, Stella, Hailey and one on the way. To the very end he lived his life with dignity, compassion and a wonderful sense of humor. We will miss our beloved Pop. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Friday, June 17, 2011 at Beck Funeral Home in Round Rock. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 18, 2011 at Beck Funeral Home in Round Rock.

Beck
 Funeral Home
 www.beckchupch.com

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 & Operated
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