



Thomas Eugene Zava Obituary

September 16, 1922 - September 10, 2013

Thomas Eugene Zava passed away at 9:30 Tuesday morning, September 10 at Park West

Medical Center. He was born in Victoria (Lunenburg County) Virginia on September 16, 1922. Tom's parents immigrated from Europe in the early 1920's, and Tom held the distinction and privilege of being the first in his Albanian family to be born in America.

Tom graduated with honors from Victoria High School in 1940 and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the University of Richmond in 1944.

Tom was a veteran of World War II. He received his basic training in Camp Barkley, Texas and Medical Corp training at Ft. Benjamin Harris, Indiana. He then received secret orders to report to the Manhattan District, Special Engineering Detachment in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He was the only serviceman selected from the state of Virginia to serve in the SED.

In 1984 Tom retired from K-25 after 40 years of service in chemistry and analytical labs as a technician and supervisor throughout K-25.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents Urania Sota and Eugene Spiro Zava, brothers, Michael, Edwin, Patrick, and sister, Lily Mae Garrett. He is survived by his wife, Sybil Royster Zava, daughter Andrea Kathryn Zava and husband Dan Wilson; sons David Thomas Zava and wife Sherri; and, William Eugene Zava and wife Lauren; and brother, Eugene Spiro Zava, Jr. Tom is also survived by his grandchildren David Clay (North Carolina), Theodore Thomas, Corinna Catherine Zava (Portland, Oregon); Emily Kim, Louis Alberto, June Erin Zava (Germantown, TN); Dana Wilson Litke and husband Andrew

(Falls Church, VA); and great grandchildren Mathea Brogan and Hallie Otelia Zava and their Mother Cynthia Zava (North Carolina).

Tom served many years as a deacon, Sunday School Superintendent and choir member at First Baptist Church, and was a member of Kiwanis. Because of interest and devotion to

the Oak Ridge school system, he was awarded lifetime membership to the Parent Teacher Association of Tennessee. He devoted many hours conducting tours and doing grounds maintenance for the Bleak House in Knoxville (United Daughters of the Confederacy, of

which his wife is a member). As a result of his support and outstanding contributions to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Tom was awarded the Stonewall Jackson Service Medal. He also enthusiastically embraced square dancing, gardening, wildflower trips, fishing, bowling, and traveling through all of the continental United States.

The family is extremely grateful for the excellent and special care he received from Jerry Lindsay, Lana Rinker, and Teresa Dixon who have a special place in Sybil and Tom's heart.

Receiving of friends will be at Martin Funeral Home in Oak Ridge from 12:00 to 2:00 on Saturday, September 14. Burial will be at Anderson Memorial Gardens on Saturday, September 14, at 2:30.

Memorials can be made to First Baptist Church of Oak Ridge or the Bleak House in Knoxville.

Comments



“ Sybil, Andi, David and Bill I was saddened to hear of Tom's passing. Living next door to you during our growing-up years gave us the feeling of having an extended family. Your home was always welcoming with fun places to play and shared with us friendly and secure feelings, contributing to a sense of well-being on our circle. Tom will always be remembered as a happy and humorous part of our lives. I hope remembering your time with him brings you peace. My thoughts, love and prayers are with all of you.

Barbara Asmanes Lemont - Gainesville, FL - Friend - September 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Andy - so sorry to hear about your Dad. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Rodney & Susan Fincher - Knoxville, TN - Friend - September 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Sybil, Thinking of you in your time of need. If you need anything please call. 865-456-9171

Dr. Margaret Troxell - Knoxville, TN - Physician and friend - September 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill, I was so sad to hear of your dad's passing. I have many wonderful memories of your father during the times I spent with him at work and while we were in High School. My thoughts and prayers are with you and Family during this difficult time.

Louie & Judy Finley

Louie Finley - Loudon, TN - Friend - September 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill and Family, I was so sad to hear of your dad's passing. I have many wonderful memories of your father during the times I spent with him at work and while we were in High School. My thoughts and prayers are with you and Family during this difficult time.

Louie Finley

Louie Finley - Loudon, TN - Friend - September 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Our prayers are with all in the family

Bill and June Martin - September 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Sybil, I am so sorry to hear of my friends passing. His memory will always reflect in you an your wonderful children, so he will never be far. With heart filled regrets,
Norma

Norma Woy - Oak Ridge, TN - Friend - September 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM