



Lloyd L. Smith

July 27, 1922 – December 20, 2020 (age 98)

Lloyd L. Smith, age 98, of Sun City Grand, Surprise, Arizona, passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 20, 2020 at his home attended by his three children from Florida, Maryland and California. He was born on July 27, 1922 in Belfield, North Dakota as one of 12 sisters and brothers to Matthew and Stella Smith. Lloyd attended the Belfield School but graduation was not within reach due the severe family impact of the Great Depression. Lloyd left home at 15 to enlist in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) doing environmental work in the Dakotas. After completing his CCC term Lloyd headed to the Great Lakes for training after enlisting in the US Navy. In 1938 he was assigned to the USS North Hampton heading to the South Pacific and based at Pearl Harbor. On the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor Lloyd, his ship, and the aircraft carriers were out on sea maneuvers and delayed from returning to Pearl Harbor by difficulties on one of the escort ships. Sailing into harbor the next day Lloyd and his fellow sailors witnessed the devastation of Pearl Harbor. The North Hampton was sunk soon after in the battle of Leyte Gulf. Lloyd was rescued from the sea the next day and received the Purple Heart for the wounds he received. Lloyd was re-assigned to Boston Harbor to await his next ship, the USS Boston.

During his Boston stay he met and fell in love with Pearl Balegno. Both were deeply in love and married before Lloyd was about ready to set sail for the south Pacific in his new ship. Lloyd was away for two years until the completion of WWII completing a victorious cruise of thousands of miles ending in Tokyo Bay.

Upon returning to the Boston area Lloyd began his life long journey of husband and father. Although jobs were scarce Lloyd persisted and obtained a position of carpenter apprentice working during the day and receiving schooling at night eventually rising to the status of Project Superintendent overseeing large commercial projects around the Boston area. In 1952 Lloyd and Pearl purchased a home in Stoneham, Massachusetts where they lived for the next 50 years before moving to Arizona. During this period he and his wife Pearl raised three children, went scouting, fishing, horseback riding and made many family vacation trips to North Dakota to visit Lloyd's western siblings. Retiring at 63 he traveled around the nation visiting his siblings, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was very proud to tell anyone that he had set foot in every state capital building in the United states along with many national parks and presidential libraries. He was most proud to speak of his family.

Lloyd and his love, Pearl, were married for 77years and passed away within two days of each other this December. Lloyd passed two days after the loss of his lifetime love. He is survived by his children Matthew Smith of Florida, Lauren Greaney of Maryland and Felicia Hamwey of California and his 9 grandchildren, their partners and 12 great grandchildren and his two sisters, Doris Wagner and Ellen Mae Scheeler.

A private chapel service will be held for family members and friends followed in the Spring by internment with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.