

# Harold George Watson

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## **Watson, Harold George**

went home to be with His Lord and Savior, Jesus on Tuesday, 29 July 2014. He was born on 19 October 1931 to Clarence Elmer and Eunice Ada (Record) Watson in Phoenix, Arizona. He graduated from North Phoenix High School in 1949 and received a Bachelors' of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Arizona in 1954. He was married to Ruth May Thomas 30 August 1951 who preceded him in death in 1987, as did their daughter, Patricia Ruth Vanderlaan (Fred) in 2005. He is survived by his children, Linda Darlene Valdivia (Jose') and Harold George Watson Jr.; four grandchildren - Shawn James, Daniel Latham (Sara), Curtis Watson and Shayla Watson; two great-grandchildren - Hanna Bella Elvin, Ryan Watson Latham. He is also survived by his wife, Katherina (Kish) Watson (m. 22 September 1990). He was raised in Phoenix, Arizona with his three brothers - Robert (d. 1996) Richard (d. 2013) and C. W. "Bill" Watson (Judy) who resides in Houston, Texas. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. While at the University of Arizona, he was in the ROTC. He then served in the U.S. Army as a First Lieutenant/Tank Commander at Frankford Arsenal in Pennsylvania. His career began as an Engineer at Shell Oil in Los Angeles. Followed by : Project Engineer, Talco Engineering Co. Hamden CT 1956-1957; Chief Engineer, Rocket Power, Talco, Mesa, AZ 1958-1961; Director of Engineering, Rocket Power, Talco Mesa, AZ 1961-1964; Director of Engineering, Space Ordnance Systems, El Segundo, CA 1964-1968; Director of Engineering, Universal Propulsion Company, Inc Riverside, CA 1968; Vice President/General Manager, Universal Propulsion Company, Inc, Phoenix, AZ 1968-1975; President, Universal Propulsion Company, Inc (Talley Industries) Phoenix, AZ 1975-1998; Executive Adviser to BF Goodrich Management, Phoenix, AZ 1998-1999; Consultant, Daicel DSSA Airbag Deployment Systems, Beaver Dam, KY 1999-2002. His professional memberships included: Tau Beta Pi - University of Arizona, American Management Association, American Ordnance Association, American Institute Aeronautics and Astronautics. Survival and Flight Equipment Association (SAFE - President - 1983), Air Force Association. Harold was a loving husband, father, grandfather and uncle who had dedicated and close friends around the world. He was a 42 year cancer survivor which never stopped him from enjoying life. He loved fishing, hunting, skiing and being outdoors; especially at his mountain retreat in Greer, Arizona. He was a true Scotsman - at home on the links. His was a life well lived. He touched hundreds of lives and will be tremendously missed. Memorial Service/Celebration of Life, Saturday, 9 August 2014, 4 pm at Hansen Desert Hills Mortuary, 6500 E. Bell Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85254. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to either The First Tee of Phoenix or the 100 Club. Please visit [hansenmortuary.com](http://hansenmortuary.com) to submit online condolences.

- See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/azcentral/obituary.aspx?n=harold-george-watson&pid=171951241&fhid=2645#sthash.qPHYQTUC.dpuf>