



Marvin Leon Gardner

August 10, 1931 - April 11, 2016

Marvin L. Gardner passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Monday, April 11, 2016. He was born in Waco, Texas on August 10, 1931 to Harry and Rose Gardner. He attended Allen Military Academy and Baylor University. Afterwards, he joined the Air Force and served as a physical fitness Sargent in Germany, overseeing the construction of athletic facilities for several branches of the military.

While on leave in Dallas, Marvin met the love of his life, Shirley Pasternak. In 1954, they married at Congregation Shearith Israel, where he remained a lifetime member.

Shortly after the wedding, he joined his father-in-law, Jake Pasternak, at Dallas Cap and Emblem. In 1969, he was honored by President Nixon for working with NASA in developing the official Apollo 11 Emblem worn by the astronauts. He always saw the glass half full, and was known as an “eternal optimist”.

Known as Marvin, Dad, Big Marv, Poppa and Big Poppa, he was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was giving, caring, generous, and always willing to help others. He loved participating in and watching sports, golfing, the movies, traveling, playing cards and spending time in Las Vegas. He was a man of honor and great integrity, who was

greatly loved and will be missed by all who were lucky enough to have known him.

Marvin was predeceased in death by his parents Harry and Rose Gardner, and brothers, Bill and Peanut. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Shirley Gardner; his children, Paul (Cheryl) Gardner, Robert (Frannie) Gardner, Janelle (Larry) Friedman, Gary Gardner (Helen), Vicki (Joel) Sokolik; his 22 grandchildren, Kimberly (Matt) Schocket, Kyle (Bertha) Gardner, Michael (Jennifer) Gardner, Jaclynn (Ben) Austein, Andrew Gardner, Heather (Ryan) Schamerloh, Brian Rutt, Jason Friedman, Eric (Ilona) Friedman, Jaclyn Friedman, Taylor Friedman, Brent (Lacey) Gardner, Karis Gardner, Cori Sokolik, Cameron Sokolik, as well as his 16 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Clare Atlas in Houston.

A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at Congregation Shearith Israel, 9401 Douglas Avenue, at 11 a.m. The Burial Service will be held directly following the memorial service at Sparkman-Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family asks you to memorialize Marvin with a donation in his memory to Jewish Family Services, or the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Sparkman-Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetary

7405 W Northwest Hwy.
Dallas, TX 75225

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **13**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Congregation Shearith Israel
9401 Douglas Avenue
Dallas, TX 75225