

William H. Matchett Biography



William H. Matchett - Class of 1949 - b. January 4, 1932 - d. February 26, 2018 From the EHS Yearbook, the Maroon: Class Play 4, Entered as a Junior from West Milwaukee High School.

WILLIAM MATCHETT William “Pete” Hayes Matchett, 86, passed away February 26, 2018, in Boulder City, Nevada. He was born January 4, 1932, in Pinehurst, North Carolina, to MaryDell and William E. Matchett. Pete married Nancy Kinney January 20, 1954, in Elgin, Illinois. Pete and Nancy recently celebrated 64 years of marriage.

After graduating from the University of Illinois, Pete enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1953 and served as a sergeant medic during the Korean War. Upon returning to the United States, Pete was stationed with his wife at Ft. Carson in Colorado Springs, Colorado. While on inactive duty, Pete received his masters and Ph.D. at the University of Illinois, completing his postdoctoral at Yale University and the University of California, Irvine.

In 1992, Pete and Nancy moved from Las Cruces, New Mexico to Boulder City, Nevada, after retiring from New Mexico State University as the graduate school dean. Pete was a member of Sigma XI, Phi Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, Order of the Eastern Star, Boulder City Masonic Lodge 37 and Zelzah Shrine.

Pete’s interests included reading, fishing, water and snow skiing, and scuba diving. As an avid runner, he completed many marathons. He was a Harley rider and enjoyed traveling in his RV.

Pete was preceded in death by his daughter, Cheryl Matchett; brother, Bob Matchett; and parents, MaryDell and William. Pete is survived by his wife, Nancy; son, Douglas (MaryKarol); three grandchildren, Scott Matchett, Kara Matchett and Brian (Magen) Thompson; great-grandson, Gordon Hayes Thompson; and sister, MaryDell Chilton.