



Kenneth Ray Jensen

December 14, 1924 - December 6, 2015

Kenneth Ray Jensen died peacefully on December 6, 2015 in Sacramento, CA, one week shy of age 91. Ken is survived by his daughters, Karen, Susan and Stephanie, son-in-law Brad, and three grandchildren, Eric, Michelle and Michael. After the death of his beloved wife Frances Marena in 1968, Ken was challenged to raise their little girls on his own. Ken was born on December 14, 1924 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Jess and Gertrude Jensen. He graduated from the University of Utah with degrees in Business and Broadcasting. After serving in the U.S. Navy during WWII, he worked as a radio disc jockey, record company executive, and garnered a following for his amiable humor and extensive knowledge of jazz history. He was an accomplished drummer and was invited to tour with many big band jazz ensembles including The Jack Teagarden band and Bobby Sherwood band. However, he decided against life on the road in favor of marriage and family. He married Frances Marena Huffaker on March 29, 1958 in Los Angeles LDS Temple. After retirement, Ken returned to his love of big band jazz, becoming a much sought after speaker, presenter, and host of big band themed cruises. Ken's presentations were sold out events and his big band themed cruises took him around the world. Ken was much admired for his people skills. He loved entertaining, and had a large circle of friends and an active social life. He regularly served as Master of Ceremonies at church events and fundraisers, always getting laughs from children and adults alike. Ken is remembered as a friend to everyone, and would regularly engage total strangers in sincere personal

conversations. Ken was also a sports fan and his face lit up when talking about his favorite teams. Ken's LDS faith saw him through difficult and good times, and we know he left this earth in peace and comfort. A memorial service is planned for Saturday January 9, 2016 at 10:00am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located at 22851 Aliso Creek Rd. Aliso Viejo, CA 92656. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Age Well Senior Services: <http://www.agewellseniorservices.org> The family wishes to thank McKinley Park Care Center, Gramercy Court Assisted Living, and all of his wonderful friends for their care and support.

Tribute Wall

NN

“ *A wonderful, happy and fantastic man I was blessed to have as a cousin. Always upbeat and happy and helpful, Ken exemplified charm and character. i will miss his smile, warm hellos at church and visiting about his family and our shared relatives. He shared his deep love for his precious Frances and his 3 daughters often. Touching lives with his humor, talent and love - he will be dearly missed. Love you, Cousin!*

Nola Neeley - January 06, 2016 at 08:22 AM