



Wilbur Thomas

June 11, 1929 - April 22, 2013

He grew up as “Willy,” but most knew him as Bill. Born on the Navy base in Mystic, Ct, he moved all over the East Coast, from Cape May, NJ, to Salisbury, NC. At 14, he moved himself to Turlock, graduating in 1947. He learned to drive at Turlock Ice Co. After returning from Korea on the USS Boxer, he was the last man discharged at Treasure Island prior to the Korean conflict.

1951 saw him working for PG&E, then beginning a law enforcement career: Richmond PD, Modesto PD, and finally Alcoholic Beverage Control, earning many commendations along the way.

He leaves his wife, Shirley, his sister, Shirley Johnson, two sons, Clay and Neil, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He had many wonderful friends throughout his life and everyone knew of his love for dogs. His last, most treasured was his namesake, Willy, his Husky. He carried one photo in his wallet, it was of Willy!

Graveside services are on May 2, 2013, 9 AM, at Turlock Memorial Park, 575 N Soderquist Rd, Turlock, CA.

Please donate to

Merced SPCA No-Kill Shelter

PO Box 929 Merced CA 95341

Tribute Wall



“ *Wilbur Thomas*

January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM