Lincoln A. M. Martin (1912 - 2014)

On March 25, 2014 Lincoln Allen Martin passed away peacefully at his ranch home in Success Valley, Porterville at the age of 102.

He was born on February 12, 1912 in Santa Maria, California, but it was not the length of his life that defined him. Rather, it was the way he had lived those many years. He was a person of integrity who spoke the truth, and whose word could be trusted absolutely.

Lincoln was raised in Porterville, California, he attended Porterville High School and Porterville College before obtaining a degree in geology from the University of California Berkeley. During the World War II years, he interrupted his career as a geophysicist exploring for oil to obtain a degree in aeronautical engineering from Cal Tech, in order to contribute to the design of aircraft for the war effort. He was also a talented musician who played in the Porterville Band, and supported himself for a year by playing in a ship's band while traveling around the world with his good friend, former Porterville Mayor Bill Rogers.

He made contributions in every field that commanded his attention, from music, geophysics, aeronautical engineering, rare fruit, aviation, and farming his beloved citrus ranch. He holds seven patents, in aviation as well as geophysics. In addition, he had a passion and respect for nature, and frequently explored the wilderness areas of the High Sierras.

He is survived by daughter Ann (and Ed) Rooney, daughter-in-law Linda Martin, daughter Mary Cadieux, and son Bill (and Jima) Martin. He had seven grandchildren, Martin Rooney, Ed Rooney, Mary Blum, Linda Noesser, Don Martin, Melissa Martin and Jason Martin, and seven great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son Allen Martin; wife and mother of his children, Marie Brunette Martin; and second wife Dorothy Benson Martin. When asked: what was his proudest contribution, his answer was: my family.

He will be remembered as an exemplary man who valued honesty, ethical and moral behavior, patriotism and hard work.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that those who wish to honor his memory do so with a contribution to the City of Hope, 1500 East Duarte Road, Duarte, CA 91010 or www.cityofhope.org.