Thayne Harwood Young Jr. October 18, 1924 - May 10, 2015

Our family patriarch, Lt. Thayne Harwood Young Jr. passed away on Sunday, May 10 after a prolonged battle with COPD/IPF.

Thayne was born October 18, 1924 in Hollywood, CA, the only child of Thayne "Harwood" Young and Nettie "Marie" Young. He graduated from Hollywood High School in 1941.

Following high school, he entered the California Institute of Technology "CalTech" in Pasadena, CA. With the outbreak of World War II, he enlisted in the Navy "V-12 Student" program developed to reinforce the Navy's force of commissioned officers in support of the war effort. He graduated from CalTech in 1945 with a degree in Civil Engineering and a commission as an Ensign in the US Navy Reserve. He attended Naval midshipmen school at Fort Schuler, Bronx, NY and then served through the war's end at Port Hueneme, CA in support of materials logistics for the allied war effort in the Pacific. He later attended graduate studies in engineering at the University of Colorado 1947-1949 with a promotion in 1948 to Lt JG, USNR.

He entered civilian employment in 1951 as a civil engineer for the Guy F Atkinson Company. In 1952, during the Korean conflict, was called to active service and promoted to rank of LT USNR. He was assigned to the Island of Guam in the Marianas where he served 1953 through 1954 to expand island infrastructure in support of naval and air operations. Much of the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, and electrical infrastructure on the island today was designed and installed by his team, over sixty years ago. Following service in Guam, he again returned to working for the Guy F Atkinson Company. He was Honorably Discharged from the Naval Reserves in 1960.

In his later professional life, throughout the 60's, 70's and 80's, Thayne participated in many major infrastructure programs bringing power, water, rail and highways to the West and Southwest United States. His projects included major dams, bridges and tunnels including the nation's longest freeway tunnel (Eisenhower-Johnson Interstate 70 tunnel) through the Colorado Continental Divide. From 1968 to 1985 he was employed by the Morrison Knudsen Company of Boise, ID.

He is survived by Louise, his loving wife of 63 years; five children: Jennifer Young of Eugene, OR, Laurie Young of Boise, William Gregory (Greg) Young of Renton, WA, Patricia (Sander) of Boise, and Todd Young of Bellevue, WA. His legacy also includes 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grand children.

Thayne was interred in a private service on May 14 at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise. In lieu of flowers, the family asks consideration of a donation to the Boise Rescue Mission Women and Children Unit.

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See more at:
http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/idahostatesman/obituary.aspx?pid=174860163#sthash.yHU0r97Z.dpuf