Andrew BINGHAM (01/09/1924 - 06/05/2016)

Andrew Thomson Bingham passed away at home on June 5, 2016 in Spokane, Washington, surrounded by loving family. Andrew was born on January 9, 1924 in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada, the only child of Harold and Anne Bingham. Growing up on the prairies during the 1930s Great Depression instilled in Andy a strong work ethic, frugality, and an independent streak. Following graduation from high school in Moose Jaw, he began civil engineering studies at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon in 1942. He interrupted his education to volunteer for the Canadian Navy in 1944, and served on the destroyer H.M.C.S Kootenay in the north Atlantic during World War II. Andy returned to Saskatoon and completed his undergraduate studies in 1947, achieving a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He went on to study at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California where he earned a Master's Degree in Structural Engineering in 1948. Following graduation from Caltech, Andy joined the engineering department of Cominco, a zinc and lead smelting and refining complex in Trail, British Columbia. Andy met Dilys Jones in Trail and they were married April 4, 1951. Andy and Dilys then moved to Tacoma, Washington where Andy worked in the engineering department of Weyerhaeuser. They moved to Spokane in 1955, became U.S. citizens, and raised three sons and one daughter. Active membership in Whitworth Church played a big role in the family. Andy thrived as a structural engineer, working for architects before starting his own consulting engineering firm in Spokane in 1960. He immediately gained business and earned a reputation for his thorough analysis, expert engineering designs, and collaborative approach with teams developing large complex buildings in Spokane and throughout the Pacific Northwest. His family meant more to him than anything. They had many fun-filled summers at Kootenay Lake in Kaslo, British Columbia, and enjoyed travelling, camping and kayaking throughout the western U.S. Andy retired in 1982, and enjoyed more than 25 years of active time with Dilys travelling in the U.S., Canada, and the UK.

Andy was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Dilys. Andy is survived by his daughter Julie (Tony) Gibbon; three sons David (Sharan) Bingham, Robert (Deane) Bingham, and James (William) Bingham; grandchildren Andrew Bingham, Alexander Bingham, Earl (Jessica) Bingham, Caleb Bingham, Anne Gibbon, Daniel (Jacqueline) Gibbon, and Thomas Gibbon; great-grandchildren Mason Gibbon, Cora Gibbon, and Lillian Bingham.

Andy always loved spirited, friendly competitive bridge games; dancing with Dilys, all things about cars, and striving for the best in all he did. To the best father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, we will love and miss you forever. Truly one of the greatest generation.

There will be a memorial service at 2pm on Saturday June 11, 2016, at Whitworth Church, 312 West Hawthorne Road, Spokane, WA. Donations may be made to Hospice of Spokane or Whitworth Church.