



James Harvey Balkema

May 10, 1921 - October 22, 2014

JAMES "JIM" H. BALKEMA May 10, 1921 ~ October 22, 2014 James "Jim" H. Balkema, 93, of Vancouver, WA, passed away Oct. 22, 2014 at Mary's Place. He was born on May 10, 1921 to Charles and Marie Balkema in Alton, IA. Jim enlisted in the Air Force Oct. 26, 1942. He served three years as an Airplane and Engine Mechanic. Jim was married to Norma "Bonnie" Lavonne Lamkin for 51 years, until her death in 1995. He remarried in 1997 to Raylenne Jackson. Jim worked for Bower Van Lines until he retired. After his retirement, he volunteered his time at the Share House and the Salvation Army. He was a member of the First Church of God and was a part of Joy Fellowship. Jim is survived by his wife, Raylenne; his daughter, Debbie Blevins; son, Doug Balkema (Eva); step-daughter, Stacey Caldwell (Mark); six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson. He was preceded in death by both his parents; sister, Betty Peterson; and first wife, Bonnie. Viewing will be held Sun., Oct. 26, 2014, 12:00p.m.-9:00p.m. Service will be held 3:00p.m. on Mon., Oct. 27, 2014 at Evergreen Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Share House. Please sign his guest book at: www.columbian.com/obits.

Tribute Wall



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