



Richard Hal Lesser

June 29, 1930 - December 23, 2014

Richard Hal Lesser

In Loving Memory

1930-2014

(Richard) Hal Lesser, died on Tuesday December 23, 2014 surrounded by his family and wife of 62 years, Joanne Lesser. He was born on June 29, 1930 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Clarence Lesser and Gertrude Reid. He graduated from Hayward Union High School in Hayward, California, and from the University of Utah in Mechanical Engineering. Hal was a devoted and affectionate husband and father. An active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he was a dedicated home teacher known for his outreach efforts.

Hal served in the United States Air Force as a captain and pilot. During his life-long career at United Airlines, he held several management positions and retired as the Director of Plant and Equipment Services, Maintenance Operations in San Francisco. He was known for his loyalty, work ethic, and innovative practices, which he passed on to his posterity. Hal loved the Sierra Mountains and enjoyed teaching his children and grandchildren life lessons in Yosemite National Park. He enjoyed taking motorcycle tours with his seatmate Joanne traveling 60,000 miles across the West.

Whether at work, or a Sunday school class, his presence was always felt, and his quick, witty comments livened every situation. Ever the optimistic leader, he saw each problem as an opportunity to help those around him.

He is survived by his wife Joanne, his children Rick (Karen) Lesser, Cynthia Lesser, Cristine (Peter) Robinson, Diana (James Lucas Leavitt) Telfer, Steven (Danielle) Lesser, 12 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Preceded in death by his parents and brothers Reid and John Lesser.

Memorial Services will be held on Monday, December 29 at 10:00 am at the LDS Chapel on 721 South 1200 East, Salt Lake City, Utah. Graveside Services to follow at 11:30 am in Salt Lake City Cemetery with Military Honors.

Events

DEC **Memorial Service** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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LDS Chapel

721 South 1200 East, Salt Lake City, UT, US, 84102

DEC **Graveside Service** 11:30AM - 12:00PM

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Salt Lake City Cemetery

200 "N" Street E, Salt Lake City, UT, US, 84103

Comments



“ We had the pleasure of reading Hal's personal history and find that he had a notably interesting and pleasureable life. We had a close friendship with Hal and Joanne and value their spirits and testimony.

Although this is a sad time for those left behind, it must be a time of relief from the ravages of old age for him. May the Lord comfort you, family and friends, at this sad parting, and may memories of him be an inspiration to you in future days

We send our love to the family,
Burl and Joyce Collyer.

Joyce Collyer - December 30, 2014 at 05:47 AM



“ I have so many sweet memories of uncle Hal. When growing up, our families loved to vacation together and I remember hiking and taking quick swims in freezing lake water. When I was in college, a stayed overnight in Chicago with the Lesser's, where Hal showed me and my friend some great sights and got us back and forth to and from that busy airport. I enjoyed Hal and Joanne's visits to our home after Dave and I were married and had a family. He always told the best stories of his growing up and his relationship with my dad and mom. He loved his own family more than anything, but still made the effort to call me every now and then to catch up. When our last daughter, Kelsey got married, Hal was suffering from RLS as well as a few other ailments, but still came to AZ to support us and celebrate that event with us. Family was always the most important thing to Hal. After my own dad passed away in 1984, I looked to Hal in some ways to help fill that void, and I am so grateful for the love that he and Joanne extended to me and my family.

Linda Bang - December 29, 2014 at 02:07 AM



“ Hal & Joanne have been our dear friends for 10 Yeats. We always enjoyed Hal's talks, testimony & prayers, he spoke so eloquently. We enjoyed hearing his stories about flying. He built such fine furniture for his family which we know will remain a treasure. A man of many talents, we loved him & will surely miss him!
We hope to visit Joanne while she's staying Denver. We send our love to Joanne & all the family. Some of you we've met.
Jere & Lois Hill

Jere & Lois Hill - December 28, 2014 at 08:58 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Hal's passing. We remember his testimony of the gospel given his last Sunday in Pagosa.
We send our love and sympathy to Joann and all his family . Karen and Byron Greco.

Byron and Karen Greco - December 27, 2014 at 09:01 PM