



Franklin Pickens

July 23, 1936 - March 14, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Franklin (Frank) D. Pickens, who entered into eternal rest on March 14, 2025, in San Antonio, Texas at the age of 88. Born on July 23, 1936, in Moxee City, Washington, to James L. Pickens and Jeanette Freeman Pickens, Frank was the youngest of six siblings. He grew up in Tenino, Washington, and at the age of 17, he enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving for an admirable 23 years.

While stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, Frank met and married his beloved wife, Shirley A. Bruggeman. Together, they raised three daughters—Lori, Terri, and Valeri—while living in various places, including Nebraska, England, Maryland, Japan, and Texas, thanks to Frank's military career. After retiring from the Air Force, he worked in management and real estate for several years.

Frank was an enthusiastic bowler, participating in multiple leagues and traveling to compete in numerous tournaments. Later in life, he continued to bowl, often meeting up with his good friend and fellow bowling partner, Warren (Okie) Carberry. Beyond bowling, Frank had a deep affection for animals. He opened his heart to pets that his grandchildren could no longer care for, as well as stray animals in need of food and shelter. He treated all animals with kindness and compassion. Frank had a love for the outdoors. He enjoyed fishing and camping, and traveling to parks throughout the country with his

family. He also enjoyed many memorable trips with his wife to their favorite gambling destinations. Frank and Shirley were devoted members and volunteers at Concordia Lutheran Church, always making time for worship and service.

Frank is preceded in death by his parents, James L. Pickens and Jeanette L. O'Dell, as well as his brothers James (Hazel), Daniel (Anne), Clarence, and Robert Pickens, his sister Delores (Perry) West, and his daughter Lori Jenkins.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 66 years, Shirley A. Pickens, daughters Terri (Andy) Longoria and Valeri (Roy) Olvera, as well as his grandchildren: Kenneth Jenkins Jr., Kourtney Jenkins, Joshua (Jennifer) Longoria, Jordan Longoria, Nicolas Longoria, Logan Longoria, Michael (Claudia) Rodriguez, Jonathan Rodriguez, Marissa Olvera, and Christopher Olvera. Frank also leaves behind seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 12:00pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North (3401 Cherry Ridge). Visitation will begin at 11:00 AM.

Interment to follow at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Frank's service and dedication to his country will be recognized with the rendering of military honors by the United States Air Force.

Frank will be forever in our hearts and missed by his family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

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“ I'm so sorry Shirley, Terri, and Valeri! I've missed seeing that face for 37 years now, but I've NEVER forgot him. All the lessons he taught us, the things he did for us, being there and always there to talk to. As i said before Valeri your parents hold a VERY SPECIAL place in my heart. I think I was The neighbor kid that would never go home!!! As you know I lossed Dad at thanksgiving, I know the toughness of this!! I wish I could be there but it's not possible at this time. I will be home in May, maybe I can see you then. I know I will visit your dad as he is now keeping my dad company. Love to ALL! Your in my prayers.

Dawn Norris - April 01, 2025 at 11:53 PM