



Thomas J. Ruhnke, Sr.

March 28, 1930 - January 12, 2012

RUHNKE

Thomas Jerome Jerry Ruhnke, Sr., beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle, entered eternal rest on January 12, 2012 at the age of 81 after a nine-month battle with brain cancer. He was born on March 28, 1930 in San Antonio to Frank and Christina Ruhnke. He was preceded in death by his parents; and three brothers, Franklin, Herbert, and Edward Ruhnke. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Cleo Schaefer Ruhnke; daughter, Cindy Highlander Dennis; sons, Thomas Ruhnke, Jr., M.D., Eleanor, Greg Ruhnke Lisa, Jeff Ruhnke Kristin; sister, Helen Marie Hammer Jack; grandchildren, Andrew and Shelby Highlander, Kristen, Lauren, Kim, Chase, and Reese Ruhnke; and numerous nieces and nephews. He attended Central Catholic High School and then joined the Brothers of Mary in St. Louis, MO. He graduated magna cum laude from St. Mary's University. He served on active duty with the USAF and then entered into the USAF Reserves, advancing to the rank of Colonel. His Civil Service career at USAF Security Service spanned 36 years, receiving numerous accolades and culminating in the position of Deputy Director of Electronic Warfare Data Research. He was one of the founding members of St. Luke's Catholic Church and School, serving as President of the School Board, member of the Choir, and longtime member of the Men's Club. He was also an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt and fish.

SERVICES

Visitation will be held on Monday, January 16, 2012 beginning at 12:00pm, with a Rosary at 1:00pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapel North. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 10:00am at St. Luke's Catholic Church , 4603 Manitou, San Antonio, TX, 78228. Entombment will follow in the Mission Burial Park North Mausoleum with military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the National Brain Tumor Society at www.braintumor.org or The Brigidine Sisters, St. Brigid's Convent, 5118 Loma Linda, San Antonio, TX 78201.

You are invited to sign the on-line guestbook at www.missionparks.com