



William L. Davis passed away on Sept. 19, 2010, at Mountain View Care Center in Bozeman. Bill was born in Bozeman on April 17, 1922, to Fleming and Florence Davis. Bill graduated from Gallatin County High School in 1940 and attended Montana State University for two years.

Bill served in the 71st Division of the 3rd Army, World War II European Theatre, from March 2, 1943 to April 11, 1946. He was a life member of American Legion Post No. 14 and served in the drum and bugle corps and firing squad. Bill was the flagbearer in numerous citizenship programs at the courthouse.

He was inducted into the Montana Bowling Hall of Fame in 2000 and was an active bowler for 50 years in Bozeman. He was a life member of the Bozeman Elks Lodge No. 463. He worked for 38 years in the auto parts supply business, and weekends as a bartender at the Bridger Club and Elks Club.

Bill married Hazel Malmborg on Nov. 17, 1946, in Townsend. Bill and Hazel lived in their home on South Bozeman Avenue for 60 years. He spent many hours planting flowers and keeping the yard lovely year after year. Bill was always helping other family members and neighbors in a multitude of ways ... he was a good friend and enjoyed visiting with others. Bill loved spending time with his grandchildren.

He was a fireworks pyrotechnician, setting up displays for the Fourth of July, and he traveled to Idaho with his grandson, Larry, setting up a large display on a barge.

Surviving family members are sons and daughters-in-law, Jerome J. Davis (Margaret) and Gary E. Davis (Marian); aunt, Harriett Buettner. He is survived by grandchildren, Lawrence M. Davis (Candace), Debra M. Hegel (Andrew), Susan M. Davis (Steven Eager), Robert M. Davis, Thail Ann Davis, Tracy Beck (John), Don Sweeney, Ellie Rothing; and great-grandchildren, Kelsey Davis, Matthew and Andrew Hegel, Lauren and Madelyn Beck, Jake and Ryan Rothing.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Hazel; parents, Fleming and Florence Davis; and sister, Mary Frances Phillips.

Memorial contributions may be made to Gallatin County Historical Society and Pioneer Museum, 317 W. Main St., Bozeman, MT 59715.