

William Howard Pitzer

April 17, 1920 – March 31, 2017

(From Ancestry and Findagrave.com)

William Howard Pitzer, 96, died Friday, March 31, 2017. A longtime resident of Charleston he passed peacefully, surrounded by his family, at Hubbard Hospice House, after a short illness.

Bill was born to Charles Edgar Pitzer and Nellie Lilly Pitzer on April 17 1920, in Hinton, W.Va. He was a graduate of Hinton High School.

Bill loved entertaining his family and friends with tales of his upbringing in Depression-era Summers County, including stories about many colorful characters and events from the Hinton region. On August 28, 1947, he married Mildred King of Nallen, W.Va. in Charleston. Mildred preceded him in death in 1995, after 47 years of marriage.

Bill served U.S. Marines during WW II, seeing action on Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima, as a member of the 4th Marine Division. He was awarded several combat medals and citations including, the WW II Victory Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, two Presidential Unit Citations, and the Asiatic-Pacific Medal. He was discharged at the rank of Corporal in November 1945.

Bill was employed in several positions in Charleston over the years, including stints with DuPont, C&P Telephone, Purity Maid Bakery, Columbia Gas, Toledo Scales and the West Virginia Department of Weights and Measures, from where here he retired in 1984.

He was a member of the Bible Center Church in Charleston.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Margaret Pitzer Fox, Charleston, and his brother, Charles Pitzer, of Dunbar, W.Va., and a son in law, Ronald Sirk, Clay, W.Va.

Bill is survived by his children: Jennifer and Ronald Long, Crab Orchard, W.Va.; Bill (Jr) and Jackie Pitzer, Davidson, N.C.; Michael and June Pitzer, Charleston; and Charles and Jolie Pitzer, of Charleston. He also survived by grandchildren:

Kelly Sirk Johnson, St Albans, W.Va.; Kristen Sirk Kerns, of Columbus, Ohio; Jonathan Pitzer, of Eugene, Ore.; Benjamin Pitzer, Morgantown, W.Va.; Ethan Pitzer Bridge, W.Va.; Will Pitzer, Boone, N.C.; and Sam Pitzer, of Davidson. Grandchildren: Kaitlyn Lamotta, of Charleston; and Bella Lamotta, of Charleston; and great-grandson, Jaron Johnson, of St. Albans. Bill is also survived by his nephew, Jerry Fox, of Charleston, and Penney Pitzer Casto, of Winfield, W.Va.; Pam Pitzer Whited, of Charleston; Paula Pitzer Searls, of Scott Depot, W.Va.

Celebration of life service will be held 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, at Bollinger Funeral Home, 420 Lee St. West. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Park, South Charleston. Visitation will be two hours prior to the service at the funeral home.