



## William Thomas Prouty

October 2, 1925 - February 14, 2020

William was born on October 2, 1925, in Rolla, Missouri to the late David Prouty and Evelyn Hodges Prouty Woods. He departed this world on Valentine's Day having his sweetheart of 72 years and other family members by his side on February 14, 2020 at the St. James Veteran's Home.

William was raised in Rolla and graduated from Rolla High School in 1943. He was an aviation ordnanceman while serving in the United States Navy from June 25, 1943 through May 16, 1946 and earned the World War II Victory Medal. After serving in the Navy, he attended Missouri School of Mines (Missouri University of Science and Technology). He married the love of his life, Grace E. Perry, on September 17, 1947. He was employed 32 years as a surveyor and cartographic draftsman for the United States Geological Survey Department of Interior in Rolla.

William was a previous Deacon and Elder for almost 50 years at Ridgeview Christian Church and was a present member of the Rolla Church of Christ. He served many years on the board of directors for St. Louis Christian College. He was an avid fisherman and hunter. He was known for his amazing ability to produce huge Jettsetter tomatoes. He enjoyed playing golf and supporting the St. Louis Cardinals, Rolla Bulldogs, St. James Tigers, Golden State Warriors, Missouri State Men and Lady Basketball Bears.

William was preceded in death by his parents David and Evelyn, stepfather Oral Woods, brother Robert Prouty, sister Shirley Gilmore, daughter Caren Joyce Spradling, and several sister and brother-in-laws, as well as, several nieces and nephews.

He is survived by his wife, Grace; son, Gary and wife Donna, Springfield, MO; son-in-law, Ronald Spradling, Rolla, MO; granddaughter, Christy Gregorich and husband John, Chandler, Arizona; granddaughter, Jeana Bahr and husband Joe, St. James, MO; grandson, Stephen Prouty and wife Caitlyn, Springfield, MO; and grandson, Patrick Prouty and girlfriend Julie Nguyen, Springfield, MO; great grandchildren, Brittany Pitzer and husband Tyson, Chelsea Gregorich, Justin Gregorich, Zachary Bahr and Lucas Bahr; Sister-in-law Zella Lee Prouty, Eldon, MO; sister-in-law, Carol Lavery, Largo, FL; sister-in-law Ann Gabriele and husband Gene, Rolla, MO; brother-in-law Daniel Perry and wife Beverly, Hot Springs, AR; sister-in-law Sherry Perry, Trumann, AR and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements visitation and service will be held at the Rolla James and Gahr Funeral Home. Visitation will be on Friday, February 21, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 22, 2020.

The family would like to thank the wonderful, nurturing, and supportive staff at the St. James Veteran's Home. They would also like to thank William's lifelong friend, Walter "Parky" Parkinson, who was his best friend growing up, joined the Navy together, worked together at the USGS, hunted and fished together, competed and challenged each other as they grew their award winning tomatoes, and currently living at the St. James Veteran's Home where he comforted the family at the time of William's passing!

Contributions in honor of William can be sent to the St. James Missouri

Veteran's Home or Rolla Church of Christ.

# Cemetery Details

**Rolla Clty Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

FEB **21**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Rolla  
1651 E. Hwy 72  
Rolla, MO 65401  
(573) 458-2262  
jgrolla@hotmail.com  
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

### Service

FEB **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Rolla  
1651 E. Hwy 72  
Rolla, MO 65401  
(573) 458-2262  
jgrolla@hotmail.com  
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

### Military Honors

FEB **22** (CT)

Rolla Clty Cemetery



# Tribute Wall



“ *William Thomas Prouty*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *William Thomas Prouty*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *So sad to hear of Bills passing. I loved you both from the first time I met you. His life was truly a life well lived ! Also sorry to learn of Carens passing. I'm sure they are laughing with Mom in heaven and praising our God. Terry Gillmore Kelley*

**Terry Gillmore Kelley** - February 27, 2020 at 09:35 PM



“ *Grace and family,  
I just learned of Bill's passing. What a wonderful man and Christian example. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

**Denny Lewis** - February 15, 2020 at 06:21 PM



“ *Gary so sorry for your loss hugs*

**Cathy and Billy Rogers** - February 15, 2020 at 05:44 PM