



Robert E. Baker

February 6, 1920 - June 26, 2011

Robert E. Baker, 91, of Okemos, MI and Sun Lakes, AZ died, Sunday, June 26, 2011 at his home. He passed after a short illness, during which his family showered him with the love and gratitude he so richly deserved. Bob left a legacy of love and inspiration to the many, many people whose lives were touched by this special man of humble beginnings. As a husband he inspired others by caring for his adored wife, Bethel, with selfless devotion. As a father to Michael (Jacqueline) Baker and Maureen O'Donnell (Jim Simpson), he served as an example by rising above a difficult childhood to become an educated man of principle. He supported his children in all things with love and humor. His grandchildren, Kevin, Sean, Shaemas, Bridget, and Rory will remember him as their number one cheerleader. His great-grandchildren, Keenan, Sawyer, Sachi, Rocco, Lydia, Malaki, Elijah, and Rowan have known him as a delightful playmate. Bob is also survived by his sister, Julia Young, of Texas. Playing was Bob's forte, and that served him well. Beginning with his pre-teen years, sports were a major factor in shaping his future. After serving in WWII as an Air Force radio operator, he took advantage of the GI Bill to graduate from Michigan State College with a major in physical education. As a teacher, coach and administrator he touched countless lives, motivating young people to push themselves beyond their limits and have fun doing it. His career in education was spent in Williamston and Okemos school districts and ended with his retirement after more than 30 years at Okemos High School. It was Bob's sense of fun and his unconditional love that made him a "favorite

uncle” and earned him hundreds of friends wherever he went. In Arizona, Bob was an icon, an example of what people could be in their later years if they remained active. He and Bethel participated in numerous Senior Olympics. Bob was still playing tennis 3 short months before his death. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorials may be given to Hospice of Michigan, 1723 W. M-32, Gaylord, MI 49735. Condolences may be left online at www.wolfeoneill.com. Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O’Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert E. Baker*

January 30, 2023 at 04:02 AM



“ *Robert E. Baker*

January 30, 2023 at 01:03 AM



“ *Great man. Wish I got to know him better.*

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