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Bill Sondag, 86

Aug. 23, 1921 - Sept. 22, 2007

BELLEVUE, NE — William "Bill" M. Sondag, son of Theodore and Helena (Peterson) Sondag, was born on August 23, 1921, in Portsmouth. He grew up and graduated from high school in Tennant. Bill joined the Army Air Corps and served with distinction in both World War II and the Korean War. As a fighter pilot he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with 12 Oak Leaf Clusters in addition to numerous other awards.

March 14, 1946, Bill married Joyce Smith of Shenandoah, at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines. Bill retired from the Air Force in 1961 and most recently from Malnove Corporation in Omaha. He died Sept. 22, 2007, at his home in Bellevue, NE, following a lengthy bout with cancer at age 86.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Joyce Smith Sondag; his daughter, Nancy Jane; and his grandson, Vincent Maniscalco. He is survived by his children, Stephen Sondag (Wendy) of Reston, VA; Deborah Maniscalco (Richard) of Seattle, WA; Timothy Sondag of Knoxville; Jeffrey Sondag of Bellevue, NE; Rebecca Sondag of Burwell, NE; and Kevin Sondag (Deb) of Chandler, AZ; grandchildren, Jennifer Sondag of New York City, NY; Nicholas Maniscalco of Seattle, WA; and Elizabeth Sondag of Herndon, VA; sisters, Joyce of Des Moines and Sr. Severina of Campbellsport, WI; and other relatives.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Sept. 26, 2007, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Shenandoah. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery in Shenandoah. Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home in Shenandoah, in charge of arrangements.