

JAMES W. WRAY, JR.

On February 13, 2014, James W. Wray, Jr. passed away after a short illness. His two daughters and family were at his side and Jim's passing was peaceful.

Jim was born February 28, 1922 in Waco, Texas to Cue Phillips and Jimmy Wray. Jim was preceded in death by his wife Beverly Marshall and his sister, Margaret Wray Keton. He is survived by two daughters and their families; Nancy and Cletus Dodd and Sara and Martin White; five grandchildren Elizabeth (Dodd) and husband Lloyd Conaway, Margaret Dodd, Martin Wray White, William White, Maude White; two great granddaughters Ellen James Conaway and Margaret Grace Conaway. Jim will be missed by his cousin and her family, Kay and Larry Nettleship of San Saba, Texas and their children Clay Nettleship and daughters; Leah and Tim Oehrlein and their sons. His nephews Jim and Jeannette Keton and children of Rockwall, Texas; Frank and Maureen Keton and their children of El Paso, Texas.

Jim attended Baylor University and graduated in 1943. Like most young men of his time, he answered the call of duty and entered the United States Navy and was commissioned as a Naval Officer in 1943. A short time later, on June 6, 1944, he was the Captain of his naval vessel landing on Omaha Beach on that historic day. Jim later also served his country in the Pacific theater.

Following the war, Jim returned home and obtained his law degree from Baylor University in 1947. Following graduation from law school, Baylor University School of Law requested that Jim stay on as a Professor of Law where he taught "Torts" to the incoming law students. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Corpus Christi and entered private practice with the law firm of Lewright, Dyer, Redford, Burnett, Wray and Woolsey where he practiced law for over 30 years. Jim continued to practice law in Corpus Christi with the law firm of Chaves, Obregon, & Perales until he was 91 years of age. Every day he reported for duty willing to help and mold young lawyers.

Jim served as President of the Corpus Christi Bar Association, State Bar Director for District 11; Director of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel; Texas State Chairman for the American College of Trial Lawyers; and was a member of many other prestigious legal and community organizations throughout his legal career. The State Bar of Texas in 2005 recognized Jim as one of the most outstanding lawyers in the State of Texas.

Memorial services will be held on April 4, 2014 at 2 pm at the First Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, Texas. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers that friends may make donations to the first Baptist Church of Corpus Christi or Baylor University School of Law.