

JEROME SEARS

Jerome Fargo Sears was born June 7, 1915 in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Jerome Sears, Sr. and Louise Osborne Sears. His father was an army officer and had to move frequently. During his early years Jerome lived in Pioche, Nevada, his mother's birthplace; Washington, D.C.; Wheeling, West Virginia; Reading, Pennsylvania; Chicago, Illinois, and Buffalo, New York.

After Buffalo his parents were divorced, and he lived in Philadelphia with his mother, two brothers and a new stepfather. He finished school there and had several jobs during the depression days. In 1935 he decided to try his luck in California where his father lived with a new wife, and two younger boys, Bob

and Bill.

He worked on the power transmission line between Hoover Dam and Los Angeles, and at the harbor in San Pedro, and continued his education at the University of Southern California. When this country entered World War II he joined the Army, attended Officer Training School at Aberdeen, Maryland and graduated as an Aviation Ordnance Officer. Before shipping overseas he was posted to Norton Air Base in San Bernadino, California where he met and married Genevieve Beck. Shortly thereafter he was sent to Thurleigh Air Base, England, attached to the 8th Air Force, 306th Bombardier Group, and remained there until the end of the war.

He was cited and decorated for some particularly risky jobs of defusing live bombs in wrecks on the base, and in aircraft returning from raids over Germany.

Released from active duty he returned to Los Angeles and worked for the U.S. Treasury until 1950 when he was recalled to active duty and sent to Japan and Korea as a Captain with combat troops. When the war ended he returned home to his job with the Treasury Department.

He then decided to try a job with a land developer in Santa Rosa, California, and it was at this time that son, Tommy, joined the family. Jerome was offered the opportunity to head up a new Redevelopment Program in San Bernadino, California. This was to be one of the largest projects in the country. The family was in San Bernadino from 1956 until 1967, when the project was completed.

They had planned to retire in Pioche and at this time Jerome acquired a residence and a hardware store in Pioche. With Tom and Pearl Brown, they moved to Pioche.

Later, Jerome took over the Redevelopment Project in Port Huneme, California and commuted between there and Pioche until the job was finished.

For the last 20 years he has been an active business man in Pioche, operating a hardware store, a garage, and the local Gem Theater, and has been ably assisted by his son, Tom. He has been active

in community projects, especially in promotion and development of the Pioche Recreation Park. He was a member of the Episcopal Church and St. John Lodge #18, F.&A.M.

Jerome was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Genevieve, who died in February, 1990. In April, 1991 he married Sandra Pinotti and they made their home in Eagle Valley.

Jerome died in Las Vegas on July 28, 1993. He is survived by his wife, Sandra; three brothers, Tom, Bob, and Bill; his son, Tom; and three stepdaughters, Tina, Jeannette, and Shellie and six grandchildren.

Masonic services were conducted in Pioche on July 31, 1993.

SEARS, Jerome F. Jr.

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Rpt. 12 Dec 43

1628th Ord Co

Ordnance Officer

28 Jul 93
Las Vegas, NV

S.O.#

Col

LtCol

Maj

Capt

1Lt

2Lt

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