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Lyman Robert Amburgey

Lyman Robert Amburgey, 86, died peacefully on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 at Tucson Medical Center Hospice. He will be greatly missed, but we celebrate that he has gone on to eternal life and is reunited with Ruth, his beloved wife of 59 years.

Lyman was born in Oran, Missouri on December 22, 1919 to Maryland Amburgey and Julia Helen Nichol Amburgey. He was the oldest of three children. He grew up in Caruthersville, MO.

Lyman met his wife-to-be, Ruth Emily Sides, while both were attending the University of Missouri in Columbia. They were married on November 9, 1941, shortly before Lyman left for the South Pacific to serve in the United States Army. He served as an officer in both WW II and the Korean War.

After his discharge from the Army, Lyman worked for the Cooperative Extension Service (USDA) as a County Agent in central Missouri. In 1954, Lyman and Ruth moved to Tucson, AZ with their three young daughters. Their son was born two years later.

Lyman worked for the University of Arizona as Soils Specialist for the Agricultural Extension Service for over 25 years. For several summers he went to Madison, Wisconsin to work on his doctorate, and then he and his family spent a year in Madison where he completed his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin in 1962.

After his retirement in 1980, Lyman and Ruth moved back to Missouri where they bought a farm near Houston, MO and built a house. They enjoyed gardening, fishing and giving tractor rides to the grandchildren when they came to visit. In 1995 they returned to Tucson to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

Lyman was an active member of Trinity Presbyterian Church for many years, where he served as an elder and a trustee.

He is survived by three daughters, Julia Ruth Sherry (Robert), of Tucson, AZ; Elizabeth Louise Marcoux (Douglas), of Bothell, WA; Anne Hamilton Swanson (George), of Castro Valley, CA; and one son, Robert Maryland Amburgey (Cristina), of Puyallup, WA; a sister, Kathryn Smith (Emerson), of Centerville, MO; 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by Ruth, his loving wife and by his sister, Frances Rose.

There will be a graveside service at Memorial Park Cemetery in Columbia, Missouri, where Lyman will be laid to rest with his dear wife Ruth.

AMBURGEY, Lyman Robert