



## Denis Joseph Zigrang

May 11, 1926 - August 31, 2018

Denis Joseph Zigrang, 92, died August 31, 2018 from a broken heart. Employed by North American Aviation-Downey, CA (nuclear energy research and propulsion thermodynamics), Martin-Denver (rocket science), Bendix Missiles (Chief Propulsion Engineer), Retired from North American-Rockwell-Tulsa (analytical specialist), retired Mechanical Engineering Professor from the University of Tulsa where he was selected Tau Beta Pi Engineering Professor of the Year in 1990. He was preceded in death by the love of his life, his wife of 69 years, Betty Lou Lamoureux Zigrang, their daughter Mary Kay, their son Leo, his parents Harry Louis Zigrang of Livermore, IA and Augustine Choquette of Salix, IA, and by her parents, Leo and Evelyn Edgar Lamoureux of Varina, IA. He is survived by their children, Larry and wife Liz, Dr. Tricia Zigrang, and by Laurie Davie and her husband Mike.

Denis was a graduate of Loyola College Preparatory High School, Los Angeles, where he won the Bausch and Lomb science medal and was president of Loyola's chapter of the California Scholarship Federation; of Iowa State College with a BS in Chemical Engineering where he won the Alpha Chi Sigma chemistry award and was a member of the engineering honorary society, Tau Beta Pi; and of the University of Tulsa with an MS in Mechanical Engineering and a Doctorate of Philosophy earned in the TU Chemical Engineering Department. He authored a classified book on high-energy aerospace fuels and numerous scientific and engineering journal articles. He was the author of the textbook "Elements of Engineering Measurements." In his 79th year, he wrote his autobiography. He was a Fellow Member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the boards of several local non-profit organizations. He was a volunteer nursing home ombudsman and a member of Christ the King, Immaculate Conception and Holy Family Cathedral Parishes.

Denis is also survived by: grandchildren, Terri (Zigrang) and husband Andy Vajda, John and Rachel Zigrang, Kathleen Livingood, Benjamin and Kaitlyn Zigrang, Sarah (Zigrang) and Joel Katz, Ericka and James Guinan, Jake and Gian Olsen, and Eleanor, Evelyn, Gordon, and Malcolm Davie; and by great grand children, Isaac Vajda, Marc, Luc, and

Ajax Zigrang, Christopher, Nathan, and Andrew Livingood, Kallai and Enoch Zigrang, and Nova Katz. Sister Mary and brother Frank, sisters-in-law Patricia and Cheri, and brother-in-law Arthur also survive him. His sister Margaret Hergenreter and brother James Zigrang preceded him in death.

Catholic rosary will be Tuesday Sept. 4th at 7:00 pm in the Fitzgerald Ivy Chapel and funeral mass will be Wednesday Sept. 5th at 11:00 am in Holy Family Cathedral. Interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery.

Fitzgerald Ivy Chapel, 918-585-1151

# Comments

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“ Aunt Mary told us about Uncle Denis. We are sorry for your loss. So many fond memories of both him and Aunt Betty.

**Nick & Sheila Hergenreter** - September 08, 2018 at 01:49 PM

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“ We are saddened to learn of Denis's passing but refreshed by remembering his good humor, warm personality, positive enthusiasm and eternal energy for intellectual pursuit. We are blessed to have had the honor of experience working with him in the aerospace engineering and educational arenas. My most sincere condolences to the family. Rest in peace, Denis.

**Robert Strattan** - September 04, 2018 at 08:17 PM

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“ We are so sorry we will not be at the funeral services for Denis. Our sympathy to the Zigrang family. Always enjoyed our visits with Denis and of course our bridge games.

**Art & Jeanie** - September 04, 2018 at 04:17 PM

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“ Thinking of you all, and saying prayers for Denis as he heads out on his next journey...he was a real genuine article, and his love for his wife and his family had no bounds...God bless you Denis, and I'm sure you're celebrating as you reunite with those that have gone before you...you were one of the good ones, and I'm sure we'll all get together again one day... God Bless, George & Cindy XOXO

**George & Cindy** - September 04, 2018 at 11:10 AM

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“ I met Denis and Betty in April, 1991, when I rented Apartment 10M at Liberty Tower from them. We have been friends ever since. He introduced me to the L.T. community, and I knew I had found a place I could call home. Denis encouraged me to buy into Liberty Tower, and to get involved in the homeowner's association. I followed his advice. I bought my forever home in October, 1994, and quickly got involved in the Liberty Tower Owner's Association. I was appointed to the Board of Directors, was later Vice-President, and had a long term as President/CEO of the Board of Directors. While I was President, Denis wrote me almost EVERY week about some area of the building that he felt we could improve upon. His suggestions were not only welcomed, but were a catalyst for infrastructure and policy improvements. I put him on the Policy and Procedure Committee, and he was instrumental in getting long overdue procedures addressed. In my first term as President, he was the encouragement I needed to Dig Deep, and Get the Work Done. He told me, You can't please everybody, but if you please those of us who have been here for years, and have invested in OUR HOME, then you are on the right track, and you are going to be a great success! I thanked him for that. Always the faithful teacher.... If I could add a notation to his OFFICIAL OBITUARY, I would mention that Denis Zigrang was Instrumental in the implementation and passage of policies and procedures that are used daily in the management and maintenance of Liberty Tower Condominiums. His devotion and love for his home, Liberty Tower will be a legacy for others to remember, and an example for both owners, and residents to follow. I will always remember our conversations, his sage advice, Betty's never ending cookie care packages at my front door, and above all, knowing that he had my best interests at heart. He was one of a kind. With the optimal word.... kind. Kindness enveloped his heart. Now he is with his beloved life partner. Denis and Betty, holding hands, forever and ever!

Bill R. Bland - September 03, 2018 at 06:34 PM