



## Willard Thomas

December 25, 1935 - April 21, 2012

FORT WORTH -- Willard Young Thomas, 76, passed away Saturday, April 21, 2012, at a local hospital. Funeral: 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Lucas Keller Funeral Home Chapel, 137 E. Hill St. Inurnment: at a later date. Visitation: 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Willard was born Dec. 25, 1935, in Fort Worth to Raymond Earl and Madge Belle Rassmussen Thomas. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma, Class of 1958, Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor's degree in journalism. He went on to receive a master of arts degree from the University of Tulsa. Willard retired as a major from the United States Marine Corps with over 20 years of service, including tours during the Vietnam War. He advocated veterans' interests through various military organizations throughout his life. He also held various positions in the community for business consultative services. Willard was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; and his daughter, Lara. Survivors: Wife of 30 years, Cinda L. Thomas; sons, Ray Thomas and wife, Debbie, Keith Laurence Thomas, and Mike Thomas and wife, Brooke; daughters, Laura Cinda Thomas, Julie Miller-Kraatz and husband, Matt Kraatz, and Cathie Klapprodt and husband, Joel; nine grandchildren; and many loving extended family members and friends.

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ *My sympathys to family and friends. Willard fought the good fight  
God rest his soul.*

---

**Judith LaFontaine** - April 28, 2012 at 01:08 AM

NR

“ *Willard was a true marine in every sense of the word and  
unforgiving of failure and falsehoods.  
His historical story of Fort Worth early soldiering truly was inspiring.*

*Rest well, Marine, you earned it.  
Nick*

---

**Nicholas D. Ricco** - April 26, 2012 at 12:04 PM

ST

“ *My condolences to the Thomas family. I met Uncle Willard just  
once..in uniform..as he visited my dad, his brother Nathan, and my  
brothers and mother.*

*Rest in peace and god bless*

---

**Susan Thomas-Tarney** - April 24, 2012 at 02:01 PM