

Reed Russell Garcia

March 4, 1922 - January 24, 2015

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WILLIAMSBURG - Reed Russell Garcia, 92, passed away peacefully on January 24, 2015 at a hospice near his home in Winter Haven, FL. He was born on March 4, 1922 to Mabel R. and Bertram H. Garcia. Reed was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Betty Jane Fulton Garcia, a brother, Bertram H. Garcia, Jr. and a grandson, John Grissom. Reed was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA and was a lifelong Pirates fan. In addition to living in Pittsburgh, he spent nearly a decade in Richmond, VA and 20 years in Williamsburg, VA as well as many years in the Florida cities of Miami, Hollywood, Clearwater and Winter Haven. In almost every location he was an active member of a Presbyterian or Reformed church. During World War II Reed served in the U.S. Coast Guard and saw action in the Pacific theater. After the war he pursued a long career in railway

passenger sales, eventually retiring from Amtrak in 1984. Reed never knew a stranger. He was a founding member of Longhill Gate's informal ROMEO (Really Old Men Eating Out) Breakfast Club and collected jokes to read at their weekly get-togethers. Survivors include his sweetheart, Jean Taylor, of Winter Haven, FL and his brother, Earl Garcia of Pittsburgh, PA as well as 3 children: Linda Jane Grissom of Murrieta, CA; Susan Garcia Giedd (Ken) of Williamsburg, VA and Wayne Reed Garcia (Janet) of Fairfax, VA. Reed will also be missed by his grandchildren: Bob Grissom, Tom Grissom, Lisa Grissom Pack, Brian Giedd, Allen Giedd, Santi Suthinithet, Kevin Giedd, Raymond Suthinithet, Michael Garcia and Andrew Garcia and by his 6 great-grandchildren. In accordance with his wishes, there will be no memorial service. A private burial will take place at a later date at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Leechburg, PA. Condolences and memories may be shared at Ott-Laughlin.com. Memorial gifts can be made to the [Wounded Warrior Project](#).

REED R. GARCIA

Published at [Ott-Laughlin Funeral Home](#)

WINTER HAVEN - Reed R. Garcia, 92, formerly of Williamsburg, VA, died of natural causes at Good Shepherd Hospice on Auburndale.

Reed was the middle of three sons, all born and raised in Pittsburg, PA. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II, seeing combat at Iwo Jima and Okinawa, where his ship was disabled by a Kamikaze. He married the former Betty Jane Fulton, now deceased, in 1943. After the war he had a long career in the passenger train industry, eventually retiring from Amtrak. Among his passions were rooting for the Pittsburg Pirates, maintain contact with his surviving crew members of LST 884, playing cards, and making people laugh. Reed made more friends than anyone could count.

He is survived by his loving companion, Jean Taylor, of Winter Haven; his brother, Earl Garcia, of Pittsburg, PA; three children, Linda Grissom, of Murrieta, CA, Susan Giedd, of Williamsburg, VA, and Wayne Garcia, of Fairfax, VA; and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

In accordance with Reed's wishes there will be no services. Memorial donations can be made to the [Wounded Warrior Project](#)