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Obituary for Foster

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Lt. Col. Robert T. Foster, age 84, longtime resident of Albuquerque, passed away Saturday, February 20, 1999 in Kansas City, Missouri. Funeral services were held February 24 at the Christ Episcopal Church in Warrensburg, Missouri. Lt. Col. Foster had resided in his hometown of Warrensburg for the last several years. It was his wish that he be buried with his beloved wife, Dorothea at the National Cemetery in Santa Fe, NM. Burial services will be held on Monday, March 8 at the Santa Fe National Cemetery at 1:30 in the afternoon. Our Dad was born August 22, 1914 in Warrensburg, MO, to his parents, Earl Robert and Jean Turnbull Foster. He married Dorothea LeCain from Cambridge, Massachusetts, in Albuquerque, on July of 1947. She preceded him in death on March 7, 1991, and being a veteran of North Africa and Italy in World War II, she was buried at the Santa Fe National Cemetery. He was a 1931 Warrensburg High School graduate and a 1935 Central Missouri State Teachers College graduate. He received his Master of Science degree in Microbiology and a Master of Arts degree in French from Michigan University at Ann Arbor, MI. Our Dad had a rich and varied career, he was stationed at Bruns Hospital and Los Alamos National Labs during World War II, where he met our mother, Dorothea. He worked on the Manhattan Project and later for the Atomic Energy Commission and Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque. In the 1960's and 70's he worked for Bendix Corp. in Kansas City, MO. After moving back to New Mexico in 1974, he worked as a Safety Engineer for OSHA in Santa Fe and then for the Albuquerque Public Schools. Our Dad was a member of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Parish of Albuquerque, the Elks Lodge #673, and the Christ Episcopal Church of Warrensburg, MO. He is survived his two daughters, Patricia Marie and husband, James Daniels of Kalamazoo, MI and Susan Dorothea and husband, Kenneth Britt of Carlsbad, NM; and also his two sons, Robert Turnbull II and wife, Martha Foster of Golden, CO and John Frederick and wife, Jeannie Foster of Los Alamos, NM. He left behind nine beautiful grandchildren, James, Michael and Luke Daniels, Laura and Kyla Foster, Randy, Jennifer and Joey Foster, and Andrea Britt. He will be missed each and every day by all of his children and grandchildren. Dad was a wonderful person who knew how to enjoy life. He was an extremely generous man with a wonderful sense of humor. He was active and happy and vital to his last day of life. He was an artist from his high school days until the day he died. He loved New Mexico, especially the light and the skies, and because of his talent we are left with some beautiful images. If you knew our father, then think of him when you see a beautiful sunset or high white clouds in a blue sky or the Sandia's turn pink at dusk. In lieu of flowers, the family requests your thoughts and prayers for our father. Any donations might be made to an appropriate Veterans organization or especially to some artistic endeavor.