



## W. Grady Witter

May 2, 1924 - January 18, 2026

William “Grady” Witter

A lifelong resident and native of Lakeland, Florida, William Grady Witter went to be with the Lord on January 18, 2026, at the age of 101. Grady was the last surviving child born to C.M. and Ruth Witter.

He attended Socrum Elementary and Kathleen Junior High School, then went on to Kathleen Senior High for his sophomore year, and Lakeland Senior High School for his junior and senior years. Grady proudly served in the U.S. Navy during World War II from 1943–1945 aboard the U.S.S. Maddox. After the war, he returned to the University of Florida and completed his Bachelor of Science degree.

In May 1946, Grady married his beloved wife, Velma Skinner Witter. Together, they had three beautiful children: Ruth Anne, Bill, and Ken. Velma passed away in July 1993. Grady later found love again and married Thera Callahan-Bryant in January 1994. She preceded him in death in February 2016.

Grady loved fishing, going to the beach, square dancing, and gardening. He also enjoyed many years of fellowship and fun playing cards (Hand and Foot) with close friends for over three decades. He owned two orange groves and tended his vegetable gardens every season—giving much of the harvest

away. He was a dedicated and faithful member of Bethel Baptist Church. Known for his quiet generosity, Grady helped countless people throughout his life, both physically and financially, never seeking recognition for his acts of kindness.

Grady was preceded in death by his parents, C.M. and Ruth Witter; his brother, C.M. Witter, Jr.; and his sister, Jeanette Keen.

He will be deeply missed by his daughter, Ruth Anne Maloy (Jim); his sons, Bill Witter (Sharon), and Ken Witter; grandsons Kevin Maloy, Steven Witter (Ruth), and Keith Witter (Missy); great-grandchildren Hayley Maloy, Tyler Maloy, Mason Witter, Cody Witter, Wyatt Witter, and Jody Witter; as well as many other family members and friends.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, January 24th, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., with funeral services beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Bethel Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Bethel Baptist Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Socrum Cemetery

3125 W. Socrum Loop Rd.  
Lakeland, FL 33810

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel Baptist Church  
3125 Socrum Loop Road  
Lakeland, FL 33810

## Funeral Service

JAN 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel Baptist Church  
3125 Socrum Loop Road  
Lakeland, FL 33810