

THOMAS

GEORGE DEWEY THOMAS, JR. died on Thursday, October 11, 2007, at his home in El Paso. He was born on October 8, 1933 in Plainview, Texas, but has been an El Paso resident for more than 50 years. George graduated from



Texas Western (now UTEP) in 1957. As a senior, George financed his degree in business administration by building swimming pools. He spent his time building pools, attending class, serving as President of his senior class, being an active member of "Men of Mines", and making "Who's Who", all in that final year of college. George entered the field of residential construction after he built his own home. He discovered that many of his friends liked his design and construction and asked him to build them a home. Since then, George has built homes in every residential area of El Paso. He always made the maximum use of floor space and continually strived to provide the home buyer an attractive, quality home at a price they could afford. He was honored as "Builder of the Year" in 1985. His innovative concepts and ideas have been used by numerous builders throughout the southwest. George gave business starts to countless numbers of home builders, subcontractors, building material suppliers and others. He was always willing to listen to ideas, loan funds to provide working capital and basically back others who wanted to start their own businesses in the residential construction industry. George did this quietly and without fanfare and so it is anybody's guess as to how many people out there owe their careers to George. George had extraordinary talent and spirit. He always demon-

strated integrity and honesty in his business and personal relationships. He has been a mentor and most positive force in the home building business for decades. His contributions to our community are countless. Always a private man, George dearly loved fly fishing in the White Mountains of Arizona and touring the southwest in his motor home with his wife, Sally. He was a gifted, kind and generous man. He will be greatly missed. George was preceded in death by his parents, George D. Thomas, Sr., and Elisabeth Howell Young; his sister, Alberta Davidson and his brother, J. William Thomas. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sally, his sons, George III (Cathy) of Dallas, TX, Paul (Debbie) of Houston, TX, David of Long Beach, CA and his daughters, Tracy McKee (Mike) of TX Paso, Holly Henry (Jim) of Flower Mound, TX and Kelly (Jay) of El Paso; his brother-in-law, Scott Ray of Geneseo, NY, his sister-in-law, Dorothy Ray of El Paso and nine grandchildren. The family would like to extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. Gregorio Castillo and care givers, Sandra, Paula, Rosa and Inez. A memorial service will be held Monday, October 15, 2007 at 1:00 P.M. at Martin Funeral Home East, 1460 George Dieter, El Paso, TX. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of El Paso or the Athletic Department at UTEP. Please view Mr. Thomas' online memorial tribute and send condolences at www.mem.com. Service arrangements have been entrusted to the care of MARTIN FUNERAL HOME EAST, 1460 GEORGE DIETER DR., EL PASO, TX 79936. (915) 855-8881