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COLONEL HAROLD S. GILBERT

USAF (Retired)

Co M 382nd

Harold Gilbert died November 24, 2002. He was born in Fort Worth, Texas on January 22, 1924 and has lived in Houston since 1932. Preceded in death by his parents, Sydney R. Gilbert and Reba Samuels Lever; and his loving son, Mark. He is survived by his beloved wife of 52 years, Jeanne; daughter, Marsha Gilbert; son, John and his wife, Julie; grandchildren, Jennifer and Michael Kirstein and Jeffrey and Amy Gilbert; brother-in-law, Arthur D. Schwarz, Jr. and wife, Yvetta; and several nieces and nephews. A graduate of San Jacinto High School in 1940, he enlisted in the U. S. Army Reserve Corps while attending The University of Texas and was called into active duty in early 1943. He served in the 382nd Infantry, 96th Division and participated in beachhead landings on Leyte, P.I. and Okinawa. Returning from service he completed his B.A. and M.Ed. degrees prior to teaching at Pershing Middle School. He was commissioned in the Air Force Reserve and called into active duty in 1950. Colonel Gilbert served 34 years active and reserve and was the recipient of the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Purple Heart with Oakleaf Cluster, Combat Infantry Badge, and other awards. He was CEO of Gilbert & Sons Warehouse and Distribution until his retirement. He twice served as president of the Houston Warehouse Association and was a charter member of the Texas Warehouse Association. He was also past president of the Houston Chapter - Air Force Association and the Ellington Chapter - Reserve Officers Association of the U. S. He served as vice-president of the Houston USO and AF vice-chairman of the Houston Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee. Gilbert was a 44 year 100% member of the Rotary Club of University area, serving as a director and secretary for many years, as well as its president. He was a multiple Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary, charter member of the Center City Rotary Club, and past president of Rotary Club Activities, a forerunner of the Boys and Girls Club of Houston. An ardent member of the Longhorn Foundation and member of the "T" Association, he was manager of the U. T. basketball team from 1945-1947, including its undefeated 1947 SWC championship team, which reached the NCAA final four and finished third in the nation. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity while at U. T. Gilbert has been a director for many years for the Houston Texas Exes, where he served as its Director of Charter services during football season. During his career he was honored by "Who's Who in American Education" and multiple listings, "Who's Who in America". Gilbert was a member of Congregation Beth Israel, a former director, and past president of its brotherhood. He also served eight years as a board member of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods and its Jewish Chautauqua Society. He was a life member of #151 B.P.O. Elks and since retirement has been a volunteer worker with auxiliaries of St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Rotary House at M.D. Anderson Hospital and as a docent at the Houston Zoo. Services will be conducted on Tuesday November 26, 2002 at 2 o'clock in the afternoon in the Sanctuary of Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 North Braeswood. Interment will follow in Beth Israel Cemetery, 1200 West Dallas. Active pallbearers will be Major Generals Stuart Haynsworth and Byron Mills, Brigadier General Victor H. Thompson, Jr. and Colonel's Roy Smith and James Hay. Honorary pallbearers will be Dr. Dennis Hamill, Dr. Malcolm

Brachman, Dr. Barry Goodfriend, Marvin Cohen, Dr. Milton Wagner, Dr. Jerry Wilkenfeld, Norris Goodfriend, Herman Fleet, Leopold Baer, Leon Combs, and members of the University Area Rotary Club, and the auxiliaries of St. Luke's Hospital, as well as his fellow volunteers at the Houston Zoo, and Rotary House. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Harold S. Gilbert Scholarship Fund for The Houston Texas Exes, P.O. Box 271648, Houston, Texas 77277-1648.