



Clifford Odell Williams

October 17, 1921 - January 2, 2017

Celebrating the Life of  
**Clifford Odell Williams**  
Saturday, January 7, 2017 1:00 p.m.  
Wesley United Methodist Church  
Nederland, Texas  
Dr. Douglas Caldwell



The Words of Grace

Greeting

Prayer

Hymn  
*"Amazing Grace"*

Scripture Readings

Gospel Reading

From the Family

Special Music  
*"Rock of Ages"*

Message

Prayer of Commendation

Hymn  
*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

Dismissal with Blessing



Clifford Odell Williams, 95, of Nederland, died Monday, January 2, 2017. He was born October 17, 1921, in Village Mills, Texas. Clifford was the oldest son of Johnny and Lucy Williams.

He graduated from Silsbee High School and joined the US Army Aircorp prior to WWII. Clifford was a pilot of a P-38 fighter in the European theater during WWII. He was shot down over France on a mission a few weeks before the Normandy invasion and was hidden from capture by the

French Underground until his liberation three months later. Following WWII, he began working at the Neches Butane Company in Port Neches, where he worked until his retirement in 1987. There, he met the love of his life, Mary Pratt. They married in 1950 and enjoyed a wonderful life together until her death in 2003. Clifford was very active in his church, was a founding member of the Wesley United Methodist church on Helena Avenue. He served in various roles, helping to establish a solid foundation for Wesley's growth. He was active in City Government in the 1970s, serving on the planning and zoning committee. In retirement Clifford and Mary enjoyed painting and were members of the Art Guild in Nederland. Clifford was a member of the Air Force Escape and Evasion Society (AFEES) and the 55<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group Association, attending their annual meeting and events with other former aviators.

Survivors include his children, John C. Williams and his wife, Mary Lou; Charles P. Williams; and Luanne R. Bilke and her husband, Ted; grandchildren, Thomas C. Williams and his wife, Stephanie; Laura M. Lind and her husband, John Paul; Matthew A. Bilke; and Clayton P. Bilke.





## Lt. C. O. Williams Reported Missing



Lieut. C. O. Williams, son of Mrs. J. V. Williams of Silsbee, has been missing in action over France since May 27, according to a message received by his mother this week.

## LT. ODELL WILLIAMS IS SAFE AND WELL IN EUROPE



Lt. Odell Williams, who was reported missing in action over Belgium several months ago by the War Department, is safe and well according to information just received by his mother, Mrs. J. V. Williams. The message from Lt. Williams said: "Dear Mother, Enjoying short leave Writing later Love, Odell."

The young flyer is a fighter pilot, and had done some outstanding strafing work over occupied Europe before the invasion. No further details of his rescue from the enemy were available.

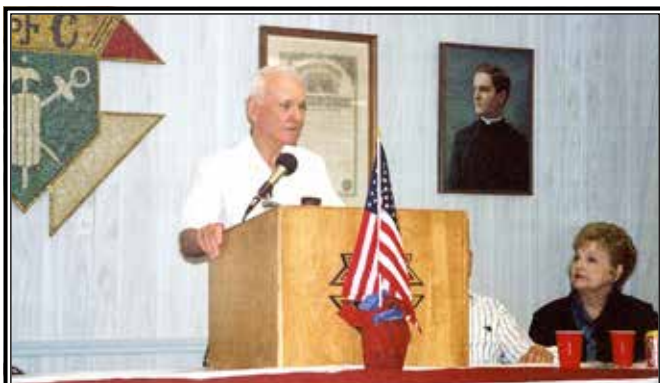
## STEWARDSHIP DRIVE



As we are asked to make our pledge to the Church we should understand that Christian giving is not only a duty but also an opportunity to serve. We should realize that the church is limited in its ability to do God's work only as we, its members, limit the giving of ourselves and our means. Certainly none of us would want to reduce the scope of the Church's influence when we remember the charge Jesus gave his disciples to "Go ye therefore and teach all nations." That charge extends to us today and must be a guide to us as we attempt to determine the extent to which we shall honor God with our gifts.

CLIFFORD WILLIAMS







**Pallbearers**

Thomas Williams

Matthew Bilke

Clayton Bilke

John Paul Lind

JT Timmons

Keith Neal

**Interment**

Holland Cemetery

Kountze, Texas

**Military Honors by**  
United States Army



Please sign Mr. Williams' guestbook and share your memories at  
[www.broussards1889.com](http://www.broussards1889.com)