**Jack Dougal Stephenson**



Jack Dougal Stephenson Resident of San Jose 88, died on March 14 in San Jose. The son of Laurence Stephenson and Florence Monk Stephenson, Jack was born on February 6, 1922 in Fort Dodge, IA. Jack graduated from Louisiana State University with a degree in aeronautical engineering in 1942. He moved to California in 1942 to continue his education at Caltech and received an MS degree in aeronautics. After graduation, he worked for North American Aviation in Southern California. As part of the Navy's war effort in 1944, he began working at Ames Research Center at Moffett Field researching aircraft design. After the war, he remained at Ames, designing aircraft for the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (NACA). In 1956, he enrolled as a graduate student at Stanford, studying space flight and vehicle reentry. Jack continued to research experimental aircraft design at Ames when NACA became NASA in 1958. He met Julia Taaffe at NASA and they were married in Mountain View in 1961. Jack remained at Ames with NASA until his retirement in 1989. After retiring, Jack spent much time volunteering for the City of Saratoga and the Tech Museum in San Jose. He also loved flying gliders and boating at Lake Tahoe. Jack is survived by his wife Julia, their children and spouses: Robert Stephenson and Laura Mifflin, Nancy Stephenson and Shawn Cannon, Tom Stephenson and Clara Fishel, and Carol Stephenson and Richard Brashears, and eight grandchildren: Anna and Renee Stephenson, Colin and Marina Cannon, Cal and Noah Fishel-Stephenson, and Kira and Olivia Brashears. He was preceded in death by his older brother, William Stephenson. A memorial service will be held at the Warner-Hutton House, located at the Saratoga Civic Center, 13777A Fruitvale Ave, on Saturday, April 3 at 2:00 pm.

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