Dr. L. Walter Matson, 79

Dr. L. Walter Matson, age 79, of Coeur d'Alene, died Dec. 15, 1993, at Kootenai Medical Center.

He was born Oct. 5, 1914, in Coeur d'Alene to Emil and Ida (Melander) Matson. He grew up in Coeur d'Alene and graduated from I.H.M. Academy, North Idaho College and University of Oregon School of Dentistry. He served in World War II as a lieutenant commander with the U.S. Navy. He practiced dentistry in Seattle for a short time before his marriage to Patricia Kelly in 1946 in Spokane. They made their home in Coeur d'Alene and he practiced dentistry in Coeur d'Alene and Spokane. Following the death of his first wife Patricia, in 1970, he was married to Irene Bowser. Following her death, he was married to Jean Sullivan on Oct. 3, 1982 in Coeur d'Alene.

He was an active member of St. Thomas Catholic Church and was a past member of the St. Thomas Parish Council. He was a past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, past president of Kiwanis, past president of Toastmasters, and a member of St. Vincent dePaul. He enjoyed golf, woodcarving and reading.

He was preceded in death by his son, Thomas Matson, in 1979. Survivors include his wife, Jean, at home; sons Walter Matson and John Matson of Blackfoot, Kelly Matson of Seattle, David Matson of Glendale, Calif., Barry Matson of Hollywood, Calif., and Chris Matson of Coeur d'Alene; daughters Ann Elgee and Mary Beth Grygny of Spokane, Ellen Jaeger of Coeur d'Alene, Patrice Ovstadal of Mukilteo, Wash., Sara Shaw of LaGrange, Ill., Margie Richley of Kennewick, Wash.; stepdaughters Sandra Fleming of Wenatchee, Wash., and Sallye Davis of Benton City, Wash.; brother Reino Matson of Olympia, Wash.; sister Elma Wells of Newport Beach, Calif.; 12 grandchildren and one great grandchild; numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 3-8 p.m. today at Yates Funeral Home, Coeur d'Alene Chapel. Vigil service is 7 p.m. Friday at the Yates Funeral Home. Funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with Father George Rassley and Father A.V. Dulberg officiating. Burial will follow at St. Thomas Cemetery.

The family prefers memorials to St. Thomas Catholic Church, 919 Indiana, Coeur d'Alene, ID. or the KMC Foundation for the North Idaho Cancer Center.