

WILLIAM A. BRENIMAN passed away in Fremont on Tuesday, October 16, 2001 at age 100. He was born February 6, 1901 in Fort Collins, Colorado. The sinking of the titanic when he was eleven and the lure of the seven seas inspired him to become a "Marconi Man" and save lives. This dream was realized as Bill saw service as a signalman and wireless operator in the USN during World War I. This was followed by assignments on nearly forty commercial ships. During shore side interludes he owned wholesale and retail radio supply stores and established the Los Angeles Radio Institute to train radio operators. From 1929-1958 Mr. Breniman worked in the communications service of the government airways for the (now) FAA. Upon retirement he owned Key Travel in Santa Barbara and was vice president of the Freighter Travel Club of America. During his lifetime Mr. Breniman belonged to many organizations. Two he founded. Through the Society of Airway Pioneers and the Society of Airway Pioneers and the Society of Wireless Pioneers and as Publisher-Editor of Sparks Journal, Bill preserved the history of early marine and airway radio communications. Mr. Breniman was predeceased by his first wife, Edna Alice Breniman, mother of Warren E. Breniman of Elkhart, Indiana and Ruth Marie Breniman, mother of Mary Jane Breniman John of Newark. Loving grandfather of Ward Breniman of Tokyo, Japan; Laurel Blewett of Naperville, Illinois; Jill John of Manteca; Glen John of Lakemoor, Illinois; Elaine Petersen of Fremont and Shannon Walsh of Rocklin. Great grandfather of Jessica Pinto, Cassi John, Dylan John, Chiaki Breniman, Tasha Fournier, Sarah John, Zachary Petersen, Kevin Petersen and Melanie Walsh. Donations in Bill's memory may be made to a charity of your choice. A memorial service will be held in November in Santa Rosa. Published by ANG Newspapers on Oct. 28, 2001.