

# Services held in Seattle for Rev. Thomas D. Williams

SEATTLE — Memorial services for former Alaska resident the Rev. Thomas D. Williams were held at the Ballard Philadelphia Church in Seattle at 2 p.m. July 18.

The Rev. Sam Smith, a friend of the Williams family for more than 25 years and pastor of the Philadelphia Church, officiated. Burial was at Washelli Evergreen Memorial Park.

The Rev. Williams, 61, died July 13 of congestive heart failure following a brief illness at the Ballard General Hospital.

He was born Sept. 26, 1926 in Tenekee. His Tlingit name was *L. tinaawoosei*, and he came from the *Auk Wooshkeetaan*. He was also a shareholder in the Sealaska Corp.

He attended Juneau High School from 1941 to 1943, then joined the U.S. Army during World War II.

The Rev. Williams attained the rank of mess sergeant while serving in Anchorage. In 1947 he was honorably discharged, and he moved to Seattle. There he finished High School at the Broadway Edison Technical School while working at the Boeing Aircraft Co. He went to work for Douglas Aircraft Co. in 1950, after moving to Anaheim, Calif.

He joined the Anaheim Philadelphia Church and studied for the ministry. In 1953 he served as pastor of the Lighthouse Tabernacle in Raymond, Wash. That same year he returned for a short trip to preach in Juneau, Sitka and Hoonah. That was when he met his future wife, Sally A. Brensdahl of Juneau. They were married in 1954 in Raymond, Wash.

The Rev. Williams later became pastor of the Garden Valley Community Church in Roseburg, Ore. To support his growing family he returned to work for Boeing in Everett where he accrued 20 years seniority. He remained an active, faithful and respected member of the Philadelphia Church where he taught all levels of Sunday School and sang in the choir.

Before his work shift work started at Boeing, he conducted daily Bible lessons and prayer meetings. In honor and in memorium of the Rev. Williams, the entire shop in which he worked closed down for a moment of silent prayer.

The Rev. Williams is survived by his wife Sally; two daughters, Rebecca of Seattle and Abigail in the U.S. Navy in Alameda, Calif.; four sons, Thomas of Seattle, Ronnie of Hoonah, Robert of Tacoma, Wash., and Joey of Lacey, Wash.; and four grandchildren.

Also surviving him are his brothers Eugene Williams of Seattle, Marcus E. Bacon of EauClaire, Wis.; and sisters Legia Nefszger of Everett, Wash., Marie Olson of Auke Bay and Carol Trebian of Bruce, Wis.

Pallbearers were Thomas D. Williams Jr., Ronnie Williams, Robert Williams, Joey Williams, Eugene Williams and George Dick. Cards may be sent to the Williams family at 3018 N.W. 85th, No. 5, Seattle, Wash. 98117.