

Thomas P. Gallagher, 80, of Bella Vista, Arkansas died Saturday December 11 in Bella Vista following two strokes in the fall.

Born in Chicago, raised his family in Lincoln, Nebraska. Served in U.S. Air Force, 1950-54. Earned economics degree form University of Illinois, 1959. Retired to Bella Vista, 1991, after 32 years in sales for Central Steel & Wire Company. Active member of Cathedral of the Risen Christ in Lincoln, then St. 'Bernard of Clairvaux in Bella Vista, instrumental in establishing parish columbarium. Tom was a warm and witty Irishman, a self-made man and lifelong salesman who made friends of strangers, and loved God, his family and golf, in that order. Preceded in death by infant daughter, Mary Therese (Terri); father, Daniel; mother Ann; brother Edward; sister Eileen Haggerty; and nephews Bill Haggerty and Tom McCormick.

Survived by his devoted wife of 51 years, Mary Therese (Walsh) Gallagher; children Peg (Tom) Magnuson of Lincoln, Nebraska; Patti (Doug) Newberry of Cincinnati; Kathy Gallagher of Chicago; and Tom (Kristi Frahm-Gallagher) of Denver; and grandchildren Riley Magnuson, Brendan Ford, Patrick Ford, Maura Ford, Frances Newberry, A.J. Newberry, Beatrice Newberry, Connor Gallagher, Lucy Gallagher. Also survived by siblings, all of Chicago, including Daniel Gallagher, Anna Mae McCormick, Rosemarie Gallagher, John Gallagher, Winifred (Gallagher) Fran; 23 nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be on Friday, December 17, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with Rosary at 7:00 p.m. at the Bella Vista Funeral Home Chapel, 2258 Forest Hills Blvd. Mass of Christian burial Saturday, December 18, at 10:00 a.m., in St. Bernard Catholic Church, One St. Bernard Lane. Inurnment of cremains will be on Sunday, December 19, following the morning mass at St. Bernard Catholic Church Columbarium.