

## Billie B. Lefler



Billie B. Lefler, 83 of Hot Springs Village, passed away on Monday, Sept. 25, 2017.

Major General Bill B. Lefler was born in Rawlins, Wyo., on Oct. 20 1933. Bill grew up in Clinton, Ark., where he was active in sports church and his community. He attended Hendrix College from 1951-1953. While at Hendrix, He met his future bride, Carolyn Ellis. They were married in 1955. He graduated from the University of Tennessee School of Dentistry in 1956 and was commissioned in the Army in 1956. During his military career of over 34 years, General Lefler distinguished himself as a clinician, teacher, administrator, and leader. He held a wide variety of important command and staff positions culminating in 1986, when he was selected as the Assistant surgeon General for Dental Services and the 20th Chief of the Army Dental Corps and promoted to Major General. Following his retirement, General Lefler joined the

staff of the American Dental Association as Assistant Executive Director for the Division of Legislative Affairs and director of the Washington, D.C., office of the American Dental Association. In January 1995, General Lefler moved back to his home state of Arkansas. He practiced dentistry at Cordoba Center Dental Clinic (now Lefler Dental) from 1996-2013. He served on numerous boards and committees such as the Boys and Girls Club and the Donald W Reynolds Center for aging. He was proud in helping to get recognition for Hot Springs Village as a volunteer community of the year for Arkansas in 2000. The governor appointed him as the initial Chairman of the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission. Bill was an active member of the village United Methodist Church, where he was on the pastoral council, sang in the choir, played in the band, and taught an annual bible study class for 17 years. He was involved in many organizations. Some of them were VFW, MOAA, Evening Lions and Cedar Mountain Singers where he was the Master of Ceremonies. He was well known for telling corny jokes. If he wasn't a member of an organization, he was always seen in the audience enthusiastically supporting them. He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years Carolyn, daughter Tracey Salter (Jack), sons Dr. Tom Lefler (Cindy) and Dr. Mark Lefler (Katherine), eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

General Lefler was a man of passions-family, friend's community, and country.