J.D. grew up in a small farming town in Oklahoma called Stratford. He grew up in a rough time in our history; Dust Bowl, Great Depression, and the loss of his mother when he was 14. As a young man, he joined the Marines and shortly after boot camp, World War II began. J.D. saw extensive action at Peleliu and Cape Gloucester in the South Pacific and was awarded two Purple Hearts. He served his country with pride and honor and was living proof of the greatest generation. After returning from the war J.D. married Connie Campbell, his wife of 63 years and whom he raised 4 children, Bob, Karen, Steve, and Barbara. He raised his children in the beautiful home that he built in Hayward, California. He loved his family and instilled great values into his children.

J.D. was in the construction industry and was a proud 50 year member of the Carpenters Union. His last two local projects were Butte College and Butte County Administration Building and has worked on hundreds of other building projects throughout his career.

Retirement was spent on his seven acres in Oroville which he loved so much. Nothing gave him more pleasure than growing flowers and his yard was absolutely beautiful. He was dearly loved by his family and friends and will be forever missed. He is once again with his Marine buddies (Semper Fi).