

*Several members attending the D/28 Summer Council meeting in Laughlin, NV, have requested a copy of the invocation given by P/D/C Lee Whitehead, SN. It was drawn from a prayer given by President Eisenhower to his cabinet.*

Heavenly Father, you know better than we know ourselves that we are growing older, and we will some day be old.

Keep us from becoming talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking we must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release us from craving to try to straighten out everyone's affairs.

Make us thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With our vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all—but you know that we want a few friends at the end.

Keep our minds free from the recital of endless details: give us wings to get to the point.

Seal our lips on our many aches and pains; they are increasing, and our love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

We ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help us endure them with patience.

Teach us the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that we may be mistaken.

Keep us reasonably sweet; we do not want to be saints—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sourpuss is one of the crowning achievements of the devil.

Help us to extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things around us, and we don't want to miss any of them.

Remember the family of Ken Barbour, who was taken from us this week. He served as rear commander of the Offshore Navigation Committee.

May all that we do this day bring honor to you and credit to ourselves.

Amen