

## **WILLIAM EUGENE ELLINGTON**

Colonel William Eugene Ellington Jr. (USAF Ret) 11/29/38 ~ 11/26/07 November 26, 2007, with his daughter by his side, William Eugene Ellington Jr. (Bill) joined his previously departed comrades and family in fighter pilot's heaven to eternally fly in the wild blue yonder. Born November 29, 1938 in Dallas, Texas to Lucy Stephens Ellington and William E. Ellington Sr.

He married the former MarJean Klenda on June 9, 1960 in Annapolis, Maryland.

Father to his beloved daughters, Pamela Renee and Aileen and grandfather to a most cherished Isabella Catherine.

Graduated from Tooele High School in 1956, earned a B.S. in Engineering from the US Naval Academy, a MA in International Relations from the University of Southern California, was a Ph.D candidate at the University of Utah, and completed many specialized military trainings to include: Primary and Basic Pilot Training, Survival Training, Combat Operations Specialists Training, Defense Intelligence Training and instruction at the Foreign Service Institute. William served his country as an active duty officer in the United States Air Force.

Among his many prestigious assignments were those as a Fighter Pilot (F100, F104, F4) Air Operations Officer, Director of Operations, and Air Attaché in Rome, Italy. His military career included 11 years of foreign service in Germany, Italy and S.E. Asia. Examples of the many meritorious medals and citations he received are the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Vietnam Service Medal. He retired at Hill A.F.B. in 1989.

William deeply loved his family, his country and God. He took pride in his family and his honorable and distinguished military record. He was proud to have defended his country in all of his assignments including his 223 combat missions. He felt a great sense of accomplishment in helping his country win the Cold War. It is virtually impossible to adequately convey Dad's immeasurable sense of duty, honor and love for his country.

Leaving us is a man with great integrity and an example of true valor.

Sending Dad off with a final salute and a lot of love. May he always fly high. CHECK SIX.

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