



Robert Wiley Crafton

May 18, 1933 - August 14, 2010

Robert Wiley Crafton

Robert Wiley Crafton, age 77, of Sugarland, TX was called home by the Lord Saturday, August 14, 2010.

Bob was born to Robert Lee and Ola Faye Crafton on May 18, 1933 in South Bend, TX. Bob attended the University of Houston where he was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1955.

Bob had a distinguished military career as a Naval aviator. The Commander had tours with several air wing commands including a tour in Taiwan and one combat tour in Vietnam. Combat decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with four strike flight awards, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. In 1962 as a test pilot, he was co-recipient of the American Helicopter Society's Frederick Feinberg Award for establishing a world speed record and the American Academy of Achievement Golden Plate award for excellence in helicopter

flying. He retired from the Navy as a Commander in 1977 and spent the next 20 years commanding the Navy Junior ROTC program at Forest Brook High School in Spring, TX, from which he retired in 1996.

Bob met Shirley Tuggle of Evergreen, AL in Pensacola, FL while he was in pilot training and they married June 22, 1957. They spent a lot of their time in recent years enjoying their bay home on Swan Point overlooking San Antonio Bay in Seadrift, Texas.

Bob is survived by his son David, his wife Suzanne and sons Kenneth and Carter Crafton of Houston and Michael Hobbs of Knoxville, TN, along with a number of other relations and loved ones who reside in Texas. Bob is preceded in death by the love of his life, Shirley Tuggle Crafton, his beloved daughter, Susan Lynn and his son, Kenneth Bertrand, as well as his parents Robert and Ola Faye and brother William.

A private interment with full military honors will be held at Houston National Cemetery on Friday, August 20, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. A memorial service will be held Friday, August 20 at 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1400 Radio Lane in Rosenberg with Rev. Rhonda Detenbeck officiating.

The family will be receiving friends at the Crafton home in Sugarland on Thursday evening, August 19 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

The family asks that any flowers be sent to First Presbyterian Church, 1400 Radio Lane, Rosenberg, TX or that in lieu of flowers, a donation be made to Operation Homefront in memory of Robert Crafton. Donations can be made

online at www.operationhomefront.net/donate.aspx or by calling 210-659-7756.

Words of condolence may be left for the Crafton family at www.davisgreenlawnfh.com.

Service arrangements are under the direction of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home, 3900 B. F. Terry Blvd., Rosenberg, Texas, 77471, 281-341-8800.

Tribute Wall

VT

“ May the Crafton family find comfort in knowing that God is "near to those that are broken at heart; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves." Psalm 34;18 He has promised to soon "swallow up death forever...and wipe the tears from all faces." Isaiah 25;8 Take care,

v. thompson - August 21, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Thanks, Bob. Being with you was always a pleasure.

Robert and Linda Wilson - August 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Dear David, Suzanne, Kenny and Carter,

We loved both your mom and dad, and they will be sorely missed down at the Bay. We so enjoyed their company on the many adventures we had together. Swan Point will not be the same without them. Always be proud that they were your parents.

Jimmy and Syda

Jimmy & Syda Gates - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Dear Crafton family,

We will miss both of your beloved parents in Sunday services and church get togethers. They had their special spot on their special pew. We know they are rejoicing together again with their Heavenly Father. May God wrap you in his arms and comfort you during this time of grief.

Ben and Lynn Bell - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RB

“*Dave, my friend, you have been through a lot in the past year, and Renee' and I pray that there is peace in the coming days. We are all proud of what your dad accomplished in this life, and celebrate with him in his victory over death and in his graduation from this life. Renee' will be in Lubbock and sends her love, but I plan to attend the services and will see you there. God bless you and your family, Rod and Renee'*

Rod and Renee' Branch - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM