



Col James Eugene White

February 8, 1929 - October 26, 2018

Colonel James Eugene White, USAF (Ret), died on October 26, 2018 in Greer at age 89.

Colonel White was born on February 8, 1929 in Lyman, SC, son of Coleman and Bernice White. He attended the University of South Carolina for one year prior to entering the U. S. Naval Academy in 1947. After graduation in 1951, his first assignments were to basic flying school at Spence Field, Moultrie GA and multi-engine advance flying training at Reese AFB, Lubbock TX, receiving his pilot wings in August 1952.

After receiving his wings, Colonel White was assigned to Donaldson AFB, Greenville SC in August 1952 as an operational pilot in C-119s. In 1953, he was assigned to Ashiya AB, Japan, again flying C-119s. He was reassigned to Donaldson AFB, SC in 1955, transitioning into C-124s. During this tour, he participated in both the Belgian Congo and the Lebanon Crises.

He attended Electronics Maintenance Officers' School Keesler AFB, Biloxi MI in 1960, followed by assignment to Air Weather Service in December 1961 at Scott AFB, Belleville IL. In 1963 he served a remote tour at Tin City AFS, Alaska as a Radar Maintenance Officer. He transferred then to Charleston AFB, Charleston SC flying C-124 aircraft, later transitioning to C-141 aircraft. He flew 33 combat missions in South Vietnam during the 1965-68 time frame. In 1968, he was assigned to Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, OH as the Military Airlift Command Liaison Officer to the C-5 Program Office. After promotion to Colonel in August 1971, he transferred to Scott AFB, IL in 1971 as Chief of

the Airlift Division, later serving as the Deputy Director of Operational Requirements until retirement in July 1979.

Colonel White's honors and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Air Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Korean Service Medal, Combat Ready Medal, National Defense Service Medal and Vietnam Service Medal.

Colonel White was employed by the Boeing Aircraft Company in Wichita, KS from January 1980 until retirement on 1 June 1991. He and his wife then moved to Greer, SC. He was a member of the Naval Academy Alumni Association, Order of Daedalians (Fraternity of Military Pilots), Air Force Association, The Retired Military Officers Association and the Airlift/Tanker Association.

Colonel White is survived by his wife, the former Loretta Kimbrell of Lyman, SC; two sons, Danny (Jan) of St Louis MO and Dennis (Yvonne) of Greer, SC; two daughters, Cathy Smith of Taylors and Teresa Gossett (Greg) of Mulvane, KS; ten grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by one son, James David White in July 1969, two sisters, Joyce Ann Ledford and Nancy Burch; and three brothers, William, Bobby and Walter White.

Visitation will be held 1:30-2:45 p.m. Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at Lyman Baptist Church. Funeral services will be held 3:00 p.m. Tuesday at the church. Burial will follow in Hillcrest Memory Gardens.

The family is at the home.

Memorials may be made to Order of Daedalians, PO Box 37367, San Antonio, TX 78148.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Memory Gardens

14050 East Wade Hampton Boulevard
Greer, SC 29651

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **30**. 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM (ET)

First Baptist Lyman
80 Groce Road
Lyman, SC 29365

Service

OCT **30**. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Lyman
80 Groce Road
Lyman, SC 29365

Tribute Wall



“ *The Wood Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Col James Eugene White*



The Wood Mortuary - October 29, 2018 at 08:59 AM



Such a dignified send off for such an awesome man. He would of been very satisfied. I will miss him greatly

Ana Sramkova - October 31, 2018 at 09:59 AM



Such beautiful people and such an accomplished man. My husband was also a James Eugene. Terri , take care at this stressful time. Love Sue Wineinger

Sue Wineinger - November 01, 2018 at 02:02 PM



They were both great men! Thank you Sue!💜

Terri Gossett - November 02, 2018 at 07:58 PM



“ *Our love and prayers are with all of your family! I never had the privilege of meeting Terri's father, but know how proud she is of her father and the legacy he leaves behind. Hugs my sweet friend and always remember he is flying in the heavenly skies with Jesus!*

Janet Eldridge - October 28, 2018 at 11:55 PM

HS

“ Rest James, until you hear at dawn,
the low, clear reveille of God.



Thank you for your service to this nation.

*Fair winds and following seas sailor.
"Boatswain... Standby to pipe the side... Shipmate's going
Ashore..."*

Thank you for your service to this nation.

Harry Simpson - October 28, 2018 at 09:03 PM



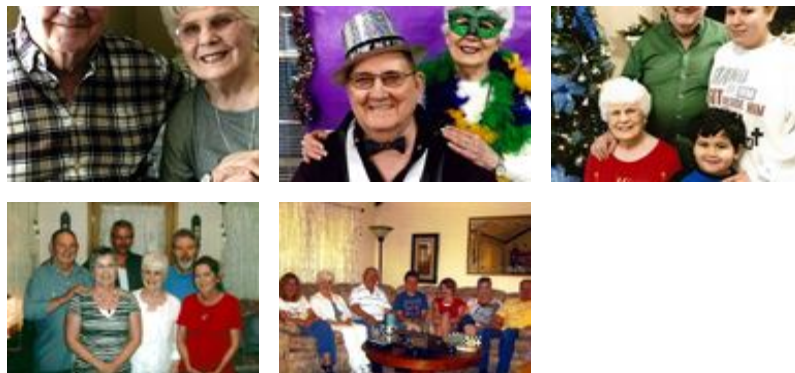
“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Col James Eugene White.



October 28, 2018 at 08:49 PM



“ 34 files added to the album LifeTributes



The Wood Mortuary - October 28, 2018 at 11:28 AM

GG

“ Colonel James White was my father in-law. He was a loving, kind, giving, caring, understanding, very intelligent and precise man. He was also a common everyday kind of guy. I worked with James several years for the Boeing Co., long before I met his daughter, Terri.

After James retired from the Boeing Co. in Wichita Ks, he and his lovely wife (Loretta) moved back to S Carolina. That is when I met their daughter Terri. Terri was working as a travel agent for the Boeing Company, however I had never met her officially at work. We officially met at a local church service one evening. Terri and I became great friends. One day Terri invited me over to her apartment and was showing me some pictures of her family. I noticed a portrait of her mom and dad hanging on the wall and I asked Terri if the man in the portrat was her father and she said yes. I about fell over!

In excitement, I said, “I know your father, he’s a great guy!” Terri later told her dad that The two of us were dating and James seemed just as surprised and elated about his daughter and I dating, at least that’s what he told me. Ha!

Then of course Terri and I were married and I officially became his son in-law. I’m sure James was blessed beyond words. Haha! It has been an honor to call Colonel James White my father in-law and good friend.

James was the best of the best man, a person could ever know. I will always salute you, honor you and admire the man you have always been, since the first time I ever met you, Colonel James White.

Greg Gossett - October 27, 2018 at 03:59 PM