



Earl Walter Phillips

July 11, 1940 - February 13, 2022

Earl W. Phillips, 81, of Godfrey, went to eternal life on February 13, 2022, at San Gabriel Memory Care in Godfrey. He was surrounded by his loving family. Born in Alton on July 11, 1940, he was the son of William J. and Myrtle F. Phillips of Alton and the tenth of their ten children.

He spent a very successful multi-decade career at the Defense Mapping Agency in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. and served as a civilian in the Vietnam War. He was a 1982 graduate of the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, PA. In 1993, President Bill Clinton presented him with the Department of Defense Agencies Meritorious Executive award. As part of his leisure activities during his working years, he enjoyed his long-time home on Culp Lane in Bethalto, playing basketball, and was an accomplished bowler, with four perfect games to his credit.

He retired in 1996 and enjoyed time as a gentleman farmer with family, friends and cows at "Camp Earl Farm" in Belleview, IL. He also enjoyed golf, traveling and church activities, including singing in the choir at Calvary Baptist Church. His loving wife, Sue, who provided years of loving care during his battle with Parkinson's disease and Lewy Body Dementia, survives him.

Surviving also are his children: Jay (Mary) Phillips of Godfrey, and grandchildren Lucy and Riley; and Brad (Laurie) Phillips of St. Louis, and

grandchildren Tommy, Danny and David; and stepdaughters Jenny (Greg) VanWyk and Betsy Maynard; and stepson Jeff (Kim) Maynard, and their son Jake (Maddie) and daughter Annie. Also surviving is his sister Bernice Haworth of Bethalto and his brother Richard (Ann) Phillips of Alton.

Preceding him in death in addition to his parents, was his loving wife of over 40 years Marie Phillips, for whom he provided care during her battle with cancer. He is also preceded in death by his brothers William, Robert and Edwin Phillips, and sisters Katherine Sparks, Lucille Johnson, Rose Beem and Marjorie Colburn.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, the Michael J. Fox Foundation or a charity of your choice.

A visitation will be held on Friday February 18, 2022 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 1422 Washington Ave., Alton, IL where funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, February 19, 2022. Reverend Andre' Dobson will officiate. Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Memorial Gardens in Bethalto. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Rose Lawn Memory Gardens

Bethalto, IL 62010

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 18. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Calvary Baptist Church
1422 Washington Ave.
Alton, IL

Funeral

FEB 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Calvary Baptist Church
1422 Washington Ave.
Alton, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Earl Walter Phillips*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Earl Walter Phillips*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Dear Sue,
I feel terrible that I wasn't at the services to express my sorrow for your loss. As you know, Earl was in my high school class. But, you are the one I know and admire as well as your wonderful family. I share your grief since Larry, my husband of 60 years, died December 17th and I miss him so much. I don't have any contact information for you but I want you to know that you are in my prayers.*

*Love,
Jan Reid*

Jan Reid - February 20, 2022 at 06:22 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



February 18, 2022 at 01:14 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



February 17, 2022 at 02:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



February 16, 2022 at 06:04 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



February 16, 2022 at 04:09 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



February 16, 2022 at 03:02 PM

DS

“ *Doug Smith lit a candle in memory of Earl Walter Phillips*



Doug Smith - February 16, 2022 at 02:15 PM

DB

“ *Sue and family,
It was with deep sorrow that I learned today of Earl's passing. He was one of the good guys of DMA and a pleasure to work with both in St. Louis and DC. May he be at peace.
David Black DMA 1968-1995*

David Black - February 16, 2022 at 01:35 PM

TD

“ *Tenna Guthrie and Mark Depping purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



Tenna Guthrie and Mark Depping - February 15, 2022 at 09:25 PM



“ *America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Earl Walter Phillips.*



February 15, 2022 at 03:36 PM

SN

“ So very sorry for his passing but am so grateful to have know him



Scott Nickell - February 15, 2022 at 03:27 PM

LK

I worked for Earl a short time when we were stationed at DMA Headquarters but I got to know him better when we played golf with the Thursday golf group. Earl was a gifted person and fun to be around!

Larry Knopfel - February 18

Larry Knopfel - February 18, 2022 at 11:29 AM