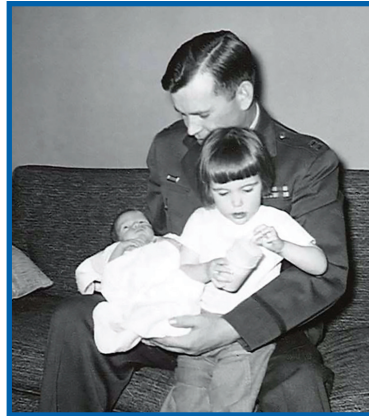


A Celebration of Life



Charles Edwin Wilson
October 4, 1922 - May 6, 2017



Charles Edwin Wilson

Col. Charles Edwin Wilson, Sr., USAF (ret), died peacefully at his home in Clarksville, MD on May 6, 2017 at age 94. He was born October 4, 1922.

A native of Pensacola, Col. Wilson served for almost 38 years in the U.S. Air Force, and saw active duty in World War II, the Korean War, and the Viet Nam War. His service included 33 bombing missions over Tokyo as part of the 20th Air Force, of which he was the last active duty member to retire in 1982.

He attended the Pensacola school, studying under Principal Dawson Briggs, his future father-in-law. He graduated from Burnsville High School, to which he returned as a math teacher after college. During his short tenure there, he married English teacher Evelyn Briggs. The two were soon embarked on a 14-year odyssey around the U.S., living in Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia before settling in Maryland in 1966. He designed and built his 16-room home in Clarksville, wanting to be sure there was always enough room for his family.

Col. Wilson held degrees from North Carolina State University and Drexel University. From 1965 until 1977, he was a principal staff member at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. He retired to return to active duty in Strategic Air Command and the Department of Electronic Warfare. His final assignment was Assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. He also founded the independent consulting firm, RAL, Inc., before retiring finally in 1991.

He is preceded in death by his granddaughter, Elizabeth Cecile Parker, his parents, Charlie and Joan Wilson of Rocky Fork, his sisters Frances, June and Betty Jean, and their husbands Wyman Higgins, Walter Riddle and Junior Robertson.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Evelyn Briggs Wilson, his brothers Bill and Bob and their wives Angie and Nelda, his children Susan Parker, Charles Jr. and Steven, his grandsons Jamison, Andrew, Dawson, Patrick, Ethan and Christian, his great-grandchildren Leighton and Cole, his daughter-in-law Renee and his granddaughter-in-law Jen.

Memorial donations in his memory may be made to the Yancey County Public Library, PO Box 1659, Burnsville, NC 28714 or to Gilchrist Hospice of Columbia, MD.

~Order of Service~

Music "Air Force Song".....Gail Elkins

"High Flight" Poem.....Kevin O'Connell

Welcome, Scripture and Opening Prayer.....Susan Wilson Parker

Remembrances.....Bob Wilson

Music "In the Garden".....Joel Robertson

Remembrances.....Charles Wilson, Jr.

Tribute to Grandad.....Ethan Wilson

Scripture "The 23rd Psalm".....All

Prayer.....Bill Wilson

Music "Amazing Grace".....Christian Wilson
Joel Robertson

Eulogy.....Steven Wilson

Military Honors.....Disabled American Veterans
Parker Grandsons
Jamison Parker, USN Reserves
Andrew Parker, USN Veteran
Dawson Parker, USAF

