



Robert Ralph Friend

December 2, 1936 - July 24, 2020

Robert Ralph Friend, 83, of Leesburg passed away on July 24, 2020 at home in the arms of his loving wife and best friend of 36 years, Marthann Knaus. He was born on December 2, 1936 in Marion, Indiana to Byron and Doris Friend. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Army and was an accomplished systems engineer, serving as a member of the NASA Apollo Space Program including the team that launched Apollo 11 with Neil Armstrong landing on the moon. Later he worked with several national information technology corporations as a systems engineer.

He is survived by his wife, Marthann, of Leesburg; daughter: Chris Kao (Van) of Weirsdale; sister: Jackie Humphrey (Harold); sister: Nancy Nye (Wayne); 3 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, He was predeceased by his son, Jay Dee.

A private burial will be at Florida National Cemetery recognizing his contributions to his country at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the National Kidney Foundation of Florida, 1040 Woodcock Road, Suite 119, Orlando, FL 32803.

Tribute Wall

CD

“ *Marthann, I was so very sorry to hear of Bob's passing. I know I always admired what a loving couple you two were. I did not realize his extensive space program background, and I am sure the family was proud of his achievements.*

May precious memories bring you comfort. RIP, Bob

Charlotte Donaldson - August 14, 2020 at 03:41 PM

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“ *Rest in peace, Uncle Bob. I love you.*

Terri - July 30, 2020 at 01:49 PM