



Ronald Cameron Anderson

July 27, 1935 - April 12, 2010

Ronald Cameron Anderson, 75, of Greenbrier, TN, died Monday, April 11, 2010 following a brief illness. He was born on July 27, 1935 in Huntington Park, CA; the eldest son of Carl H. and Helen G. West Anderson.

Ron had a very distinguished career as a decorated pilot in the United States Air Force. He flew in both the Tactical Air Command as a fighter pilot, and in the Military Airlift Command as a transport pilot. He was among the first USAF fighter pilots to fly the F-4C Phantom Jet. As a fighter pilot, Ron was the recipient of the Silver Star for heroism in the first aerial encounter with a MIG17, resulting in a shoot down of the enemy craft in the Vietnam Conflict. He was interviewed by Walter Cronkite following the mission. The plane used in this dogfight is on display at Misawa Air Force Base, Japan. Ron served as the Flight Captain of the crew that transported the Lunar Rocks to Washington, DC, following the first Apollo Moon Mission. He completed over 50 missions in the Arctic Circle for Polar Navigation. He flew into 6 continents and logged over 10,000 flight hours in his career. He logged over 1,000 hours flying at Mach 2.

Ron's efforts were all in support of his beloved family that survives him; his wife of nearly 50 years, Dorothy Melvin Anderson of Greenbrier; two sons, Randall Craig Anderson and companion Pamela Furlong Backstrom of Greenbrier and Michael Wade Anderson and wife, Wendy Eckhardt Anderson of Jacksonville, FL; one daughter, Rhonda Anderson Nason and husband, William Brent Nason, MD of Hendersonville, TN. He leaves behind six

grandchildren, Emily Lynora, Cameron and Garrett Anderson of Jacksonville, FL and Lauren and Preston Nason of Hendersonville, TN. Ron is also survived by his brother, Robert Anderson, of Cheyenne, WY. He is preceded in death by his parents.

The memorial service will be held at Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield, TN on Monday, April 19, 2010 at 8:15am. Interment at 10:00am at Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery with full Military Honors will immediately follow the memorial service.

Tribute Wall

FJ

“ Rhonda, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad. I know that you will miss him greatly. Thank you for the service that he gave to our country. Love, Faye

Faye Jackson - April 17, 2010 at 11:37 PM

CH

“ Tim and I would like to offer our condolences for the loss of your father, Rhonda. We did not know him, but know he must have been a fine man to have such a beautiful, smart and caring daughter. We wish you love and peace.

Tim and Christine Haag

Christine Haag - April 17, 2010 at 11:10 AM