



Homer Gene Dillow

February 27, 1929 - August 5, 2021

Lt. Col., Homer “Gene” Dillow, USAF Ret., born on February 27, 1929, in Dongola, IL, passed away on Thursday, August 5, 2021.

Gene attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale before joining the United States Air Force. While stationed in Japan, he met his wife, Jane. He was a navigator and flew support missions in Korea, French Indochina, and special air missions with the 89th Military Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base during President Kennedy’s and President Johnson’s administrations. Gene also flew with Air Rescue in Hawaii, as well as support missions for Apollo moon missions. He was the Director for the Air Force Rescue Center in Southeast Asia and received the Korean Service medal and a Bronze Star. Gene enjoyed carpentry as well as furniture repair and refinishing. He went on to teach aerospace and industrial arts classes at O’Fallon Township High School from 1979 to 1983. Gene loved to tell stories about his travels around the world, golfing, and he always rooted for the St. Louis Cardinals.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Reva “Jane” Dillow, nee Cuthbert; his daughter, Mary Lynn Bown; his parents, Walter E. and Louise Dillow; birth mother, Ethel Ruth Dillow, nee Knupp; and his sister, Anita Ruth Mitchell.

Gene is survived by his daughter, Dee Ann (Jon) Johnson; his son, Bruce (Kathy) Dillow; his grandchildren, Melissa, JoBeth, Jordan, Kristina, Nicholas, Riley, and Randy; six great-grandsons; his sister, Lura Dene Parke; and his brother, Frank Dillow.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to Mt. Zion Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Dongola, IL, P.O. Box 383, Dongola, IL 62926, or to your favorite charity.

Gene and Jane's cremated remains will be interred at the Mt. Zion Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Dongola, IL, with private family graveside services at a later date.

Crain Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Dongola has been entrusted with local arrangements.

To view the obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family visit www.crainsonline.com

Cemetery Details

Mount Zion

Dongola, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Homer Gene Dillow* ”

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM