Sossoman
Funeral Home & Crematory Center
5th Generation Family Owned & Operated Since 1949.



Captain Thomas Leith Shuping, USCAF, Ret.

March 23, 1933 - April 29, 2023

Thomas Leith Shuping (Retired Captain USAF) died peacefully Saturday, April 29 after several years of declining health. He was predeceased by his parents Alexander and Sadie Shuping, one brother, James A. Shuping and his first wife, Betty Buff Shuping. He is survived by his wife Norma Brittain Shuping, son Steven L. Shuping (Amy), stepson Robert Dixon Carter (Susan), stepdaughter Cherie Carter Brandt (Jay), and six grandchildren that he loved dearly, Zachary Shuping (Stephanie), Sydney Shuping, Bailey Shuping, Shannon Carter, Devon Brandt, Monya Brandt and his dog Beau.

He graduated from Morganton High School in 1951 and graduated from North Carolina State University in 1955 with a degree in Industrial Engineering. He was also in ROTC, leading him to the United States Air Force. He flew B47 bombers for the Strategic Air Command. Upon leaving the Air Force he continued his career in Engineering at Shadowline Incorporated in Morganton, North Carolina, becoming Vice President of manufacturing. He retired in 1991.

His favorite pastime was listening to the ocean waves and feeling the sand between his toes. For many years he vacationed with the entire family in North Myrtle Beach or

on an ocean cruise. He traveled the world with family and friends for nearly ten years, making enough memories to last a lifetime.

A private graveside service was held at Forest Hill Cemetery. A memorial service and celebration of life will follow in early June.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church or Carolina Caring Catawba Valley Hospice House, 3975 Robinson Road, Newton, NC, 28658 where he received excellent care during his last days.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

So sorry for your loss He was a special man he will be missed

—Linda Banales

I will always remember hearing about him tapping on cookie jars in Bi-Lo when they were empty and throwing up peace signs at all times. I'm sure he heard "greetings!" at the pearly gates.

—Brianna Bliss

My family and I will certainly miss Tommy. Due to the marriage of our children, we have been connected with Norma and Tommy for over 30 years. Together, we have enjoyed numerous meals, celebrated many special occasions, and/or just sat around the pool talking. Tommy was a true gentleman, an avid planner, an enthusiastic story-teller, and an accomplished businessman. His passing will leave a huge void in all of our lives.

—Lynne Hallyburton

Norma, Steve, Dixon, Cherie and family, I am sorry for your loss. I loved Tommy. He was a great man. I so enjoyed spending time with him over the years. Tommy always had good stories and a great laugh! I will be keeping you all in my prayers in the days ahead. Love, Becky, Nick, and Georgia

—Rebecca H. Goulding