



Don Reed Succumbs After Long Bout With Cancer

Donald Ray Reed, Sr. was born August 28, 1936, in Mansfield, Texas, to Mary B. and Bennie R. Reed. Survived by wife Maxine Melton Reed, daughter Cynthia Ann Reed of Houston, Texas, son Donald Ray Reed, Jr. daughter in-law Monica Reed and grandson Anthony Austin Ray Reed of Castle Rock, Colorado and mother Mary B. Reed of Waco, Texas. He. moved with his parents to Waco,

Texas at the age of one where he lived until graduating from Baylor University in 1958, receiving a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

He served 28 years in the Air Force including 2 years in the Office of Auditor General, 15 years as a Radar Navigator on a B-52 crew flying over 100 combat missions in Southern Asia. He held staff positions at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana and at Strategic Air Command Headquarters at Offiut Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraska. He served as liaison for B-52 combat forces in the Republic of Korea. He held rank of Lieutenant Colonel upon retirement at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth, Texas, in February 1987. During his career, he was awarded 31 metals for Distinguished Service, Achievement and Valor.

It has been said that as one takes their final breath their entire life passes before them; at which time a feeling of restful satisfaction occurs when one realizes that they did make a difference with the time they were given to spend on this earth. This lasting impact can be made with family, community, country, and friends. In Don's case I believe that he can check "all of the above". Don loved cooking chili, and most of all I believe he enjoyed watching his wife and daughter win with great regularity. It could be said that Don retired into chili. For after he retired, and especially after selling their house and moving into their motorhome, Don and

Maxine became regular attendees at chili cookoffs all over the United States. Their daughter Cindy, who is currently serving as a CASI Director, holds the distinct honor of being the only person to have won back-to-back TICC Championships. And finally, on a personal note, how many of us have experienced Don exclaiming "hello darling" as he picked up the domino that would certainly send you digging deep into our wallets?

As we all say our final farewells to our departed friend let us be thankful for the time he shared with each of us and the good that came from his friendship. Personally, I know that I am a better person for having known the one and only Donald Ray Reed, Sr.