



Clyde Larry Mings

April 15, 1923 - June 6, 2019

Clyde Larry Mings was born April 15, 1923 in West Frankfort IL to Ora and Beatrice Mings. He grew up there as one of 11 children. He enlisted in the Air Corps in 1941, completed Radio and Gunnery schools, and joined the 401st Bomb Group, 8th Air Force in Deenethorpe England.

He flew 30 missions, including D-Day, then went into avionics supervision. Larry retired as Chief Master Sergeant in 1962 and attained the rank of Captain in the Reserves. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and numerous medals and honors.

After moving to Sarasota in 1962, Larry managed the avionics departments for airlines and taught courses at the local college. He won the FAA Aviation Mechanic Safety Award at state, regional and national levels for improving aircraft safety.

He met Dorothy Groover in 1942 and they married in 1944. They celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary this year. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, two children Deborah Stephenson (Ken) and Dr. Eric Mings (Tania). He has four grandchildren Amanda Stephenson, Natalie Upton, Sean Mings and Isabella Mings and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by four sisters, Berneice Donnelly, Betty Harris, Verla Billingsley, Blondell Kern and numerous neices and nephews.

Larry and Dot were long time members of Sarasota First Baptist Church. Larry was a member of the Air Force Association, Distinguished Flying Cross Association and AARL Radio Club. He enjoyed working with his ham radio, computers and tropical fruits.

Larry passed away June 6, 2019. A celebration of the life of Clyde Larry Mings will be held at the Toale Brothers Colonial Chapel in Sarasota on Tuesday, June 11 at 2:00PM. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. The Reverend Jarvis Hochstedler, Chaplain from Sunnyside Village, will officiate. Burial will be handled by Parker-Reedy Funeral home of West Frankfort IL. The Reverend Amanda Stephenson will officiate at the graveside service.