



Colonel Harold H. Hester, USAF, Ret.

July 1, 1929 - August 26, 2017

Colonel Harold H. Hester, USAF, Ret., passed away Saturday, August 26, 2017 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. Colonel Hester was born July 1, 1929 in Magee, MS to the late Aubrey A. Hester and Roxie Ann Mangum.

Hal enlisted in the US Airforce in 1947 and was appointed to the US Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1952. Hal reentered the US Airforce accepting commission to fly single engine jet fighter aircraft, thus embarking on a twenty-four year career, which earned him the rank of Colonel and sent him all over the world including: South Korea, Vietnam, Germany, Italy and many US states. In 1969, Hal was awarded a Master of Science Degree from Oklahoma State University.

Upon retiring from the AF as Base Commander of Dover AFB, DE in 1976, he accepted a position as Business Manager of Appoquimink School District and then decided to enter Delaware Law School, where he graduated in 1986. He served as Assistant Public Defender in Delaware and later opened The Law Firm of Barnett and Hester.

He and his wife, Margie, of forty-three years moved to Florida from Dover, Delaware in 2002 for fishing and helping to raise our grandchildren.

Hal is survived by his wife, Margie, son, Gordon and his wife, Jackie and two

grandchildren, Connor and Callie, who were the love of his life.

Funeral Services will be held on November 24, 2017, 11:00am at Sarasota National Cemetery located at 9810 State Road 72, Sarasota, Florida 34241.

Hal's philosophy in life was "to be enthusiastic in life because we only get one crack at it- one chance to sparkle." Hal did that and much more.

Memorial donations in Hal's memory can be made to:

Siesta Key Chapel

4615 Gleason Avenue

Sarasota, Fl. 34242