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William Roden Saunders **AAFA # 0673S Charter Member**

May 8, 1933 – September 4, 2017

William Roden Saunders, 84, of Georgetown, TX was called home by his Lord on September 4, 2017. He was born May 8, 1933 in Ruston, LA to William Lewis Saunders and Lucille Roden Saunders.

Will graduated from Ruston High School and earned a BS degree from Louisiana Tech University in 1955. In 1956 he entered the United States Air Force as a Second Lieutenant and in 1957 received his wings at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, TX. He was assigned to Strategic Air Command (SAC) as a combat pilot. Will was discharged from the USAF in 1959 with the rank of Captain. Upon completion of his Air Force duty, Will was employed by Southern Bell Telephone Company, beginning his career in New Orleans. Progressing with the company he worked in North Louisiana in Shreveport, Minden, and lastly Winnfield where he served as Plant Manager.

In 1964 he joined Hancock Fabrics and was soon promoted to district manager of the Houston area. This brought him to Texas where he remained for the rest of his life. After retirement from Hancock Fabrics, Will became a Real Estate broker in Conroe, TX.

While stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base, Will met Carolyn Annice Alford and they married on June 20, 1959 in Shreveport. Will and Carolyn moved to Texas in 1964, raising four boys in Houston and Conroe. Will and Carolyn retired to Horseshoe Bay in 1987 where Will served on the board of the Church of Horseshoe Bay as well as on their church's building committee. In 2006 Will and Carolyn moved to Georgetown (Sun City) where they attended The Worship Place.

Will was preceded in death by his parents and his son Stan Alford Saunders. His survivors include his wife of 58 years, Carolyn Saunders; his sons, Kirk William Saunders (Jenifer Deas Saunders) of Canton, GA, and twins Mark Edward Saunders (Beth Kelley Saunders) of Round Rock, TX and Scott Martin Saunders (Jennifer Champagne Saunders) of Kingwood, Texas. His grandchildren include Annice Marie Saunders, Kase Austin Saunders, Kaylen Julia Saunders and Cara Deeanne Saunders, all of Georgia; Tommy Stan Saunders, Sean William Saunders and Michael Kelley Saunders, all of Round Rock, TX; and Rachel Elizabeth Saunders and Christopher Joseph Saunders of Kingwood, TX.

Will's passion was golf, sports (especially college football), and music (his favorite being New Orleans Dixie Land Jazz). Will enjoyed the friendships of his golf groups. He had three hole-in-one's in an eighteen month span. Will loved a good joke and fun times.

Will requested before his passing that the tremendous love and devotion of his wife, Carolyn, be recognized. She was his tireless caretaker in his last months on earth, as well as his constant companion and his best friend. Carolyn's love was apparent to all and she was nothing short of a true blessing to Will.

A memorial service will be held on September 23, 2017 at 10:00 am followed by a reception at Ramsey's funeral home in Georgetown, Texas. The family will hold a private internment at Lakeland Hills Memorial Park in Burnet, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Methodist Children's Home at 1111 Herring Ave., Waco, Texas 76708 or to The Worship Place, 811 Sun City Blvd., Georgetown, TX 78633.

You may share a message or memory in the online memorial guestbook at <u>www.RamseyFuneral.com</u>.

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