



Colonel George E. Thayer

October 24, 1927 - August 20, 2016

George Edwin Thayer, Jr., 88, of Lebanon, passed away surrounded by his family on Saturday, August 20, 2016, at his home in Lebanon, Indiana. He was born in Norfolk, Virginia, on October 24, 1927, the son of the late George Edwin Thayer, Sr., and Mary Lucille (Onley) Thayer.

He was a graduate of Maury High School.

On December 24, 1947, he married the love of his life Jacquetta (Davidson) Thayer in Lawton, Oklahoma. She survives. They would have celebrated 69 loving years together.

George had a long and illustrious military career that spanned 35 years beginning in 1944 when he enlisted in the United States Army. He served in Japan and occupied Europe following World War II; combat in Korea and Vietnam and retired as a Colonel and Master Aviator (fixed and rotor wing) in 1978. While in the service he earned his BA at the University of Nebraska in Omaha and later a Masters and Specialist degree in education at SMSU in Springfield, Missouri. Among many other awards and decorations, George was the recipient of the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

After his military career, George began a second career by contracting with

the Federal Aeronautics Administration to help update their training protocols and manuals to instruct air traffic controllers.

He was a dedicated family man and loved his wife, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchild dearly.

No Services are planned.

Myers Mortuary and Boone County Crematory of Lebanon are handling the arrangements.

Survivors:

Wife:

Jacquetta D. Thayer

Children:

Virginia E. Viehe

George E. Thayer, III

James E. Thayer

JoEllen Jones

Seven Grandchildren

Nine Great Grandchildren

One Great Great Grandchild

Deceased: In addition to his parents, George was preceded in death by a sister, Barbara Thayer Rawls.

Memorials may be made in his honor to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675 or at www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Tribute Wall



“ *Colonel George E. Thayer*

November 27, 2022 at 01:43 PM



“ *Was George E. Thayer married to a Jackie who was Jean Forbes' best friend? If so, please e-mail me at Boodles1953@aol.com or call my cell at 863-224-2432.*

Betsy Peacock

Betsy Peacock - January 15, 2017 at 10:44 AM

DD

“ Colonel George Thayer was the finest US Army Officer with whom I ever served. He was my Commanding Officer, my mentor and became one of my closest friends. I am incapable of expressing my admiration of him adequately. He loved his family, his friends and his country to the fullest. His integrity was complete. If George Thayer said it, IT WAS TRUE! Col Thayer was an Army Aviator with unequalled accomplishments and career. He was in the Army Aviator “Class Before One”. After WWII, the US Army Air Corps was removed from the US Army and became the US Air Force. This left a void in army light aviation requirements and an aviation presence was once again established. The “Class Before One” graduated and the US Army Aviation School was formed, drawing experience and tactics from the “Class Before One.” Col Thayer was designated the Director of the hundreds of umpires and officials who were responsible for developing the doctrine and tactics of the Air Assault Division. From these tests the First Air Cavalry Division was formed. I could relate many examples of the great man that he was, but I will just say that George Thayer was a forward thinker and a great patriot. He will be missed.

David L. Doyle
LTC US Army, Retired

David L. Doyle - January 03, 2017 at 06:01 PM

JJ

“ I miss you Daddy. Your larger than life presence has left a big whole in my life and in my heart. Terry picked up your ashes today and that was so very hard.

I hope I handled things like you wanted them.
~~Jody

Jody Jones - August 26, 2016 at 11:39 AM

JJ

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Jody Jones - August 26, 2016 at 11:35 AM