

Carl Joseph Aglio



Lt. Col Carl J. Aglio USAF Ret., of Mesa, AZ, husband, proud father of six and grandfather of fifteen, departed this life on March 9, 2017, surrounded by his family.

He is preceded in death by his daughter Lisa Rush and granddaughter Adrianna Rush of Littleton, CO. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Patricia; sons David Aglio (Tracy) of Charlottesville, VA, Carl Aglio (Deborah) of

Slippery Rock, PA, and Michael Aglio of Fort Worth, TX; daughters Dana Levenda (Michael) of Milford, MI, and Anne Marie Bishop (Douglas) of Buckeye, AZ; and son-in-law William Rush of Littleton, CO. Born June 25, 1937 in California, PA, the oldest child of Anthony and Josephine Aglio, big brother to Carolyn "Carrie" Rader (Edgar) and Joseph Aglio (Tina dec'd) of Fresno, CA.

Carl graduated from Charleroi High School excelling in academics and athletics and was recruited to play football at the United States Naval Academy. Upon graduating in May, 1960 he received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force and promptly reported to flight school. Seven months later he married his sweetheart, Pat, on December 26, 1960 in Clairton, PA.

A twenty-year career in the Air Force followed; Flying fighters out of KI Sawyer AFB, MI, a wonderful three-year tour in Vicenza, Italy, combat duty in Vietnam, flight instructor duty at Reese AFB, TX and Williams AFB, AZ and finally Squadron Commander, 21st Air Division, Hancock Field AFB, NY.

Decorations included the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, two Meritorious Service Medals, and eleven Air Medals.

Moving back to Mesa, AZ after retiring from the Air Force in 1980, Carl pursued a second career of twenty-seven years with McDonnell Douglas / Boeing as an engineer and program manager building the AH-64 Apache Helicopter. He really enjoyed his time at Boeing, especially the people on his team. He often remarked how lucky he was, "The old timer, getting to work alongside these young and brilliant engineers."

He was active in the local community, at various times serving as a BSA Troop Scoutmaster at Christ the King Catholic Church; President of the Mountain View Toros Booster Club; choir member, catechist, and lector at Christ the King Catholic Church; and, developing and running the Bingo program at Christ the King Church

for fourteen years. Carl loved sports and outdoor activities. Taking the kids fishing and camping was a favorite activity.

Whether he was playing, on the sidelines or in the stands, he gave his all to whatever event it was. He especially enjoyed watching his grandchildren play, didn't matter the sport or weather, he'd be there to cheer them on.

Carl also loved to travel and made lifelong friends wherever he went. Italy was a favorite destination with Carl serving as tour guide/chauffeur on multiple occasions. Naval Academy reunions in Annapolis were a special event. Visiting children and grandchildren in Colorado, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Michigan had him crisscrossing the states for years. Having a son and his family living overseas gave him the opportunity to visit Australia numerous times, with a trip to Dubai capping his worldwide adventures.

He truly enjoyed, and was the driving force behind, spending a week each summer with his children and grandchildren, usually at the Outer Banks, North Carolina, sometimes in the mountains of Colorado. For Carl, it was all about family. He adored his parents, his sister and brother. He was especially proud of his children and grandchildren, and wasn't timid about sharing stories with anyone willing to listen.

Everyone was family. His Naval Academy brothers, Go Navy! Beat Army!, with whom he maintained a continuous sixty year relationship; special people he met while serving in the Air Force; people he befriended while traveling the world, all became family. Friends, sweethearts, spouses of his children: all part of the family.

He was a compassionate and loving man, and fiercely loyal to his family. He will surely be missed by all who knew and loved him.

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