

His Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of him as gone away –
his journey's just begun;
life holds so many facets –
this earth is only one.
Just think of him as resting
from the sorrows and the tears
in a place of warmth and comfort
where there are no days and years.
Think how he must be wishing
that we could know, today,
how nothing but our sadness
can really pass away.
And think of him as living
in the hearts of those he touched...
for nothing loved is ever lost –
and he was loved so much.

-Ellen Brenneman

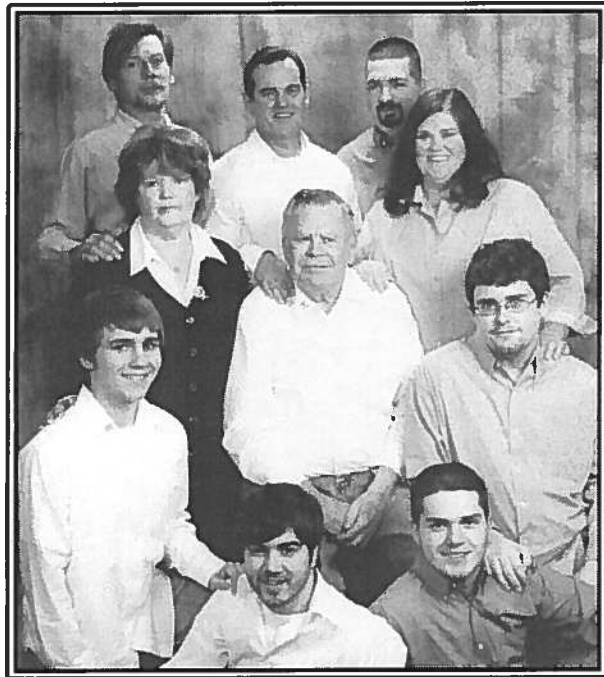


In loving memory of

Phillip Edward Havens

September 8th, 1933

May 1st, 2013



What we'd give if we could say
Hello, Dad in the same old way
To hear your voice and see your smile
To sit with you and chat a while
So if you have a father
Cherish him with care
For you'll never know the heartache
Till you see his vacant chair.

Phillip Edward Havens Jr, age 79, passed away on Wednesday, May 1st, in his home in Aubrey, TX, surrounded by his family.

Phill was born September 8th, 1933, in Middletown, Ohio, the son of Phillip and Eleanor Havens, the eldest of 7 - Lloyd, John, Phylis, Shirley, Ronald, and Donald. Upon graduation from Middletown High School, Phill started his military career by enlisting in the United States Air Force.

During his second tour, while stationed in Toul-Rosières Air Base, France, Phill met his wife of 58 years, Ginette. They went on to have 3 children, Billy who preceded him in death in 2009, Phillip, and Brigitte.

During his career in the Air Force, Phill was very passionate about Bowling, winning several championships in the Air Force bowling league, and getting featured in Stars and Stripes, a military publication. During this time, he met his lifelong friends Gene Bowman, Tony Roybal, and Jim O'leary. Phill retired from the Air Force in July of 1972 as a Technical Sergeant after serving his country for 20 years, 7 months, and 22 days.

After his retirement from the Air Force, Phill then moved his family to the Kwajalein Marshall Islands, working as a civilian contractor for Kentron International. On Kwajalein, Phill made many friends, including Arlan Flake, Sam and Gwen Garland, and Ken and Yvonne Jackson, along with too many others to name. After returning stateside, Phill spent the remainder of his working years in Colorado, California, and Texas before finally retiring to Ohio in 1995, later relocating back to Texas to be closer to his children and grandchildren.

Phill was a charismatic and loving person. He never met a stranger; everyone seemed to be taken by his unique personality and charm. He was passionate about many things including poker, Country music, motorcycles, thunder storms, sports, and computers. He also had a love for films of all kinds, with a special interest in classic Westerns, such as "Lonesome Dove", and Musicals, such as "Paint Your Wagon". He even had a speaking role in a film titled "The Disappearance of Aimee". The most important thing, by far, in Phil's life was his family. He is survived by his wife Ginette, his son Phillip Havens, his daughter and son-in-law Brigitte and Kenneth Ragan, and his grandchildren, Jeffrey Havens, Steven Strait, Nicholas Strait, and Christian Havens.

Phill was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and will be sorely missed and forever remembered by his family and friends.

He was a gentleman and a scholar.