



Lt. Col. Hugh Bailey Rawl

July 27, 1931 - July 20, 2019

Lt. Col. Hugh Rawl, USAFR (Ret.), 87, of Houston, passed away Saturday, July 20, 2019. Hugh was born July 27, 1931 in Greeneville, TN to Blanche and Elijah Rawl. He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother James. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Manya B. Rawl, his daughters Lisa M. Rawl (and her husband John Kane) and Arlene Rawl Coffman, his brother William B. Rawl (and his wife Nancy Rawl), and nieces, nephews and extended family.

Hugh grew up in Spartanburg, SC, and was a proud graduate of Clemson College, with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He was a member of the Clemson Corps of Cadets and received his commission in the US Air Force upon graduation in 1952. During his 4 years of active duty, Hugh earned a Masters of Mechanical Engineering from Columbia University in New York and designed HVAC systems for Air Force bases across the U.S. He enjoyed serving in the Air Force Reserve for 35 years, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1991. Hugh began his career with ExxonMobil in 1952 when it was known as Esso Standard Oil Company and went on Military Leave shortly thereafter. While at Exxon, he held numerous roles as an engineer and in sales and marketing. He met his future wife Manya on a blind date in Baton Rouge, LA, in 1957 and they were married in December 1958. Hugh and Manya moved to Houston in 1966 and spent the next 53 years living in the home they built in Frostwood. Hugh retired from the Marketing Department of Exxon Coal and Minerals in 1993 and put his energy and talent into serving his neighbors and

his community. Over the next 25 years, he volunteered as a Board member and President of the Frostwood Civic Club and as a member of the local citizen patrol. While on the Frostwood Board, Hugh became passionate about flood control, working tirelessly with neighbors and local governmental entities to advocate and find solutions for drainage improvements in our area and protect as many people as possible from the risk of flooding.

In his spare time, Hugh loved being a shade tree mechanic (when you could still do that). He kept his 1962 Rambler going long past any reasonable expectation and was always happy to help his neighbors and family with their vehicles and air conditioning systems. Hugh was a loving, supportive family man and encouraged Manya, Lisa, and Arlene in all of their pursuits. He enjoyed running and swimming and was an avid fan of our Houston sports teams. Hugh's life-long love for all things Clemson was well known; he supported Clemson academic programs, planned his Fall weekends around Clemson Football, wore his bright orange shirts with gusto, and always looked forward to Houston Clemson Club events and other alumni activities. Hugh also greatly enjoyed get-togethers with his Exxon lunch bunch, the ExxonMobil Retiree Club – Houston West, and his former Air Force friends. Above all, he loved visiting with his extended family and friends in Houston and throughout the country. Hugh combined all the intelligence, precision, and analytical skills of an engineer with a generous heart, a positive attitude, and a fun-loving soul. He was always willing to give of himself to help others and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

A memorial service will be celebrated on Thursday, August 1, 2019, at 11:00 AM at Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, 12955 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77079. A reception will follow services in Friendship Court on the church campus. LTC Rawl will be laid to rest at the Houston National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: The Manya and Hugh Rawl Scholarship Endowment – Fund B2586 or The Manya and Hugh Rawl Air Force ROTC Endowed Grants in Aid – Fund B2585 and mailed to The

Clemson University Foundation at PO Box 1889, Clemson, SC 29633 (or by phone at 864-656-5896).

Cemetery Details

VA Houston National Cemetery

10410 Veterans Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77038

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Memorial Drive United Methodist Church
12955 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX
<http://www.mdumc.org>

Reception

AUG 1. 12:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Drive United Methodist Church
12955 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX
<http://www.mdumc.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Lt. Col. Hugh Bailey Rawl*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Lt. Col. Hugh Bailey Rawl*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Lt. Col. Hugh Bailey Rawl*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Lt. Col. Hugh Bailey Rawl*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM

FS

“*Hugh Rawl was invaluable to the efforts of the City of Hedwig Village concerning flood control issues and drainage. While I was Mayor, I routinely asked Hugh to attend meetings with Hedwig representatives and engineers and County flood control personnel about flooding in our Memorial west side and particularly about the W-151 ditch drainage problems. My City engineers, City Hall staff and I respected Hugh's considerable knowledge on the subject. He graciously shared information with us to improve drainage in not only his own Frostwood neighborhood but within Hedwig Village too. We will miss Hugh. I am grateful that I got to know him and call him my friend.*

Sincerely,

Sue V. Speck, former Mayor of the City of Hedwig Village, Texas.

Former Mayor Sue Speck - August 01, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“*139 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Dettling Funeral Home - July 30, 2019 at 01:56 PM

DR

“ I did not know Hugh for very long, but I was privileged to have served with him on the board of Residents Against Flooding and it was obvious to me that he cared deeply about the issue of flooding, especially in west Houston. It was also obvious that he knew what he was talking about when it came to the flooding situation Houston faces. His passing is a great loss to our community. I am thankful for the time I shared with Hugh and I count myself as one of the many who will miss him.

Don Ray

Don Ray - July 29, 2019 at 01:48 PM

CH

“ I never had the pleasure to meet your Dad, but seems like he had a remarkable life and he raised 2 remarkable daughters. My thoughts and prayers are with you.



Connie Hill - July 28, 2019 at 05:36 PM

LM

“ Our Flood Group known as Residents Against Flooding (RAF) was deeply saddened to hear of the loss of our dear Friend & Mentor as being widely known in the Community as "THE Authority" to go to, on what's wrong with Flooding in West Houston & how to fix it!~ He was tireless in sharing of his skill & knowledge with all who called upon his expertise! Of highest integrity, he was incredibly intelligent, and was a brilliant engineer~ & always so willing to help & support anyone who wanted to know more about flooding, its causes, and what needed to be done about it. He made no bones about opposing those who tried to take advantage of others, causing homes to flood. He was a leader par excellence, and such a gentleman. With a wonderful upbeat outlook, inspiring others to seek positive results for a better world. An amazing man! Will be deeply missed by me & many many others~ May The Lord comfort his family in their grief & loss~ We are praying for you all!



Lois D Myers - July 28, 2019 at 03:43 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Lt. Col. Hugh Bailey Rawl.



July 28, 2019 at 09:58 AM