



## Earl R. Wilson

February 11, 1920 - August 19, 2010

Earl R. Wilson passed away, August 19, 2010 at his home in Wellington, CO. Graveside Services with Military Honors will be held at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Staging Area A, Denver, CO on Monday, August 30, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. He was born at Charleston, W.V., February 11, 1920 to Joseph H. Wilson, Sr. and Neva Reiger P. Wilson. He graduated from Ft. Hill, High School, Cumberland MD. He also graduated from Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, where he received his Federal mechanic's license. Wilson joined the Army Air Corp in 1939 and was a veteran of the Pacific Campaign during WWII, where he was present during the assault on Hickman field and Pearl Harbor, Dec 7, 1941. He attended and graduated from several aircraft manufacturers' service schools. Later in his life he attended Colorado State University studying nature writing. He wrote several articles for the Ft Collins Coloradoan and Triangle Review newspapers, several National outdoor magazines as well as Aviation magazines. He is the author of the book, "My Left Mag is Out", a collection of his experiences during 45 years in aviation. He designed and published the "Aviation Maintenance Technician Logbook", the first logbook designed for American Aviation Maintenance Technicians to record their personal maintenance activities. He was an accomplished, well known aircraft mechanic, inspector, pilot, consultant and also a free lance writer. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9529, Wellington, Colorado and The Capitol Airlines Association, Annandale, Virginia. In October 2005, The Department of Transportation Federal Aviation

Administration presented him with, The Charles Taylor "Master Mechanic" Award. Wilson is survived by his wife, Oletha Cole-Wilson of Wellington, CO; daughter, Karen L. Larry Spier of Glen Rock, PA; sons, Stuart A. Vicki Wilson of Kadoka, SD, Steven P. Dana Wilson of Wichita Falls TX; step-daughter, Cheryl Gary Alps of Yoder, WY; step-son, Randy Kathy Shockley of Ft Collins, CO; grandchildren, Kristen Lynette White Max of Keyser, WV, Jason Earl Wilson of Ft. Ashby, WV, Reagan Lee Ison Terry of Ft. Worth, TX, Willard Wade Wilson Jennifer, on duty with the U S Army, of Ft. Riley, KS, Brian Allen Speir Wendy of Glenville, PA, Michael James Speir of New York, NY, Erica Boutwell of Witchita Falls, TX, Aaron Wilson of Omaha, NE, Brad Deschamp Rhonda of Rapid City, SD, Jody Severs of Loveland, CO, and Cody Alps of Yoder, WY; great grandchildren, Joseph Speir, Matthew Speir, Michael Boutwell, Caleb Boutwell, Victoria Wilson, Amanda Wilson, Bowen Wilson, Brady Deschamp, Daniel Deschamp, and Aloni Deschamp. He was preceded in death by his children's mother, Emily; son, Earl R Wilson Jr. and his wife, Sharon Sherri. His love for fishing will continue for all eternity with his beloved "Boomer". A special thanks to: Charrie, with Preferred Home Health and Shirley, with Mountain Valley Health Care- Hospice.

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ I was Earl's neighbor as a young boy growing up in Laporte, Colorado. Earl took me under his wing and showed me a work ethic, how to fend for myself, and the art of the deal. "Mr Wilson" was one-of-a-kind, and I know I am a better man for having known him. My condolences to his family for having lost such a wonderful soul.

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**Major Mike Stewart** - October 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ My sympathy goes out to the Wilson family and those whose lives were touched by my Great-Uncle Earl. I remember visiting him and his family when I was young, but lost track of him when he moved West.

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**Cathy Shriver Berry** - September 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Deepest regrets for your loss.

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**Sam Griffin** - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ For Earl's family, I wish to express my condolences and sympathy for your loss of a great man. I too met Earl in the early 1970's at Christman Field in Fort Collins. I bought an airplane while attending college and learning to fly. To help save expenses, I started working on the plane with Earl's supervision. I worked more and more at the airport with Earl, and one day he told me to keep track of my time working on planes and work towards getting my mechanic's license. Well, I did just that, and ever since then I have made being an aircraft mechanic my lifetime career, thanks to Earl. Earl always had nicknames for us students; mine was "Whip" and I called him "Chief." I have many fond memories working with Earl. I have never known a better mechanic, and he was a good friend to me. He taught me a lot more than just how to be a good mechanic. As my wife put it, I have lost a mentor. Earl will truly be missed, and I wish all of his family my deepest sympathy. God Bless.

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**Larry Hallock** - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Would the family of Earl please accept my heartfelt sympathy and condolences for your loss of a fine person. I first met Earl in the mid seventies, at old Christman Field, west of Ft. Collins, where he and Mr. Ken Burnham Sr. were employed as aviation mechanics. I enjoyed his wry sense of humor, as well as his sharp criticisms and was truly impressed with his aviation background. We became close friends when he and Mr. Burnham did a fantastic overhaul on the engine of the first plane Fran and I owned. Earl will be missed by family, of course, but the aviation communit, too, has lost, not only a fine mechanic, but a truly wonderful man. All who knew him well will feel his loss and will miss him. Thank you and God bless those remaining. Jack and Frances Miller

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**Jack L. Miller** - August 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ As a young girl I had the great chance of spending alot of time with Uncle Earl and Aunt Emily, and all the kids Earl Jr, Stuart, Karen, and Steve. So many good memories lie in that time. I can remember being scared of him as that young girl, don't know why. But held alot of respect for him. I can remember going to the Queen City airport with him and the kids, what a reward. I also remember his red hair, and that great big smile. I haven't had the opportunity to see him in quite a few years, but I always kept up through family members, how he was doing. I didn't realize how accomplished he was with all of his aviation experience, and writing. Wow, what a blessing. May GOD BLESS my Uncle Earl Love Linda, Bernie, Kari, Travis, & Eric and kids!!!!!!

Linda Eck - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ May there be comfort by the many warm thoughts of those who care & share in the sorrow of the loss of a great man.

Elizabeth Libby Moore - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Earl was an Overland Trail neighbor south of Laporte when we met him in the 1980's. I was writing a history of the area; he was a memorable guy and great sports writer.

Rose Brinks - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ I can't begin to express my feelings toward Uncle Earle. He had always been a part of my life and I will always hold the memories of him forever.

Marian Rizer - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Earle and I shared many things. Among them were airplane mechanics, fishing and lying about our accomplishments. He scared me to death when we rode with him and Lee in Poudre canyon. I shall miss him and hope Lee can sometime come to visit us. Love to you Lee.

Jack Rizer - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Gone but never forgotten. I just wish I had words of comfort for those left behind, but only time will heal. Love you all Willie

Diane Willie - August 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ I am truly sorry that I never got the chance to apologize to Uncle Earle for something I did years ago. It has weighed on my mind for a long time. I am a different person than I was then, and only wish that I could have shared in his life. I'm sure that his spirit is free, as it has always been. Again, my deepest apologies for the past. My love and prayers go out to all of the family. Sincerely--Joe Wilson

Joseph H. Wilson III - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ I am very sorry for your loss. Reagan had told me about her grandfather and I'm sure he will be greatly missed. Our prayers and thoughts are with you. Jack and Tonia Ison Parents of Terry Ison

Tonia Ison - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ We are sorry for your loss. God bless you and your family. Your in our thoughts and prayers.

Adam - August 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM