



Edward L. Jaerger

December 21, 1933 - July 5, 2024

Edward Leon Jaerger, known affectionately as Ed or Leon, passed away on July 5, 2024, at the age of 90 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Born on December 21, 1933, in Council Grove, Kansas, he led a fulfilling life marked by a deep love for his family, a passion for the outdoors, and a distinguished career in engineering.

Ed attended 7 different small country schools around the Council Groove area in Kansas. The family then moved to Buckeye Colorado where Ed graduated from Waverly High School at age 16. Ed then attended Colorado State University for 2 years before earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering later from Wichita State University. His professional career consisted of working at Beech Aircraft in engineering for 8 years then finishing his career at Cessna Aircraft, where he worked for 35 years in different engineering leadership positions. His expertise also contributed to national defense during the Vietnam War, where he was picked as one of four employees from Cessna to go to Viet Nam to replace the wing spar caps on the Air Force's A-37A aircraft which was literally the backbone of the Third Tactical Fighter Wings at Bien Hoa Air Force Base.

A man of many interests with a competitive nature, Ed was an avid boater, motorcyclist, loved NASCAR, RVing in the 5th wheel and motorhome and became an airplane pilot flying one of his favorite airplanes, the Cessna 210.

He cherished taking rides in the country and exploring the mountains, activities that reflected his love for nature, especially trees, including his favorite, the blue spruce tree. His commitment to his family was profound; his first priority was being a husband to the love of his life JoAnn Blehm Jaerger. Being married for 69 years they shared and created many wonderful memories. He was a supportive father who encouraged his daughters to pursue their dreams relentlessly, and he took great joy in supporting his children and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular endeavors.

Ed is survived by his loving wife, JoAnn Jaerger; his children, Susan Quinn, Sandra Childs, and Glenda Skaggs; his grandchildren, Derek Childs, Collin Quinn, Melissa Edwards, and Chelsea Smith; and his great-grandchildren, Kaleigh Quinn, Evelyn Edwards, Conor Quinn, Liam Edwards, Riley Jo Smith and step great grandson Mason Smith. He also leaves behind his brothers, Ronnie and Steve Jaerger as well as numerous nieces and nephews and cousins, one of which is Larry Jaerger who recently visited Ed at home. He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward David Jaerger and Christina Beulah Bell, and his sister, Norma Eileen Shields.

A memorial service to celebrate Ed's life will be held on July 20th at 11 am at Bohlender Funeral Chapel. His legacy of love, support, and joy will be cherished and remembered by all who knew him.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL **20**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel
121 W. Olive Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall



“ *Bohlender Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Edward L. Jaerger*



Bohlender Funeral Chapel - July 18, 2024 at 05:19 PM

CS

Love you uncle Leon I will always remember when you and Ronnie would bring grandma out to see us and we enjoyed that so much and also remember you all would call me giggles all the time we really appreciate when you brought grandma over and all you will have to tell grandma grandpa and mom we miss them and give them a hug big hug and kisses from me and let them know that I love them and miss them so very much love you uncle

Crystal Shields - July 20, 2024 at 09:49 PM

HH

“ My condolences to all regarding Ed’s passing, I am sad to hear this news.

We sure had some great fun times in the Water, from Boyd to Table Rock, and many interesting conversations about aviation, engineering, technology, and life in general. I especially liked hearing about your aviation adventures...

When I see a Cessna Citation I think of you Sir.

It was an honor to have met you!

God Bless and GodSpeed!!

Hal Eugene Halvorson - August 09, 2024 at 04:02 PM

SQ

“ Susan Rae Quinn lit a candle in memory of Edward L. Jaerger



Susan Rae Quinn - August 06, 2024 at 02:12 AM

CW

“ A man bigger than life, with a laugh to match. Somewhat wicked laugh, when he knew he “got” you. However, if you were able to get him, he loved that too.

Love and sympathy to Joanne, the girls and all the grands.

Cindy Wickham - July 20, 2024 at 12:47 PM

SM

“ JoAnn, Glenda & family, My condolences to all with Ed’s passing. A man for whom I have great respect. Ed’s advice to me was “you need to have a plan”. RSVP. Steve Massey

steve massey - July 20, 2024 at 11:53 AM

WE

“ Leon will be missed by many, I am looking forward to seeing you again someday in heaven



Wilbur Engel - July 20, 2024 at 11:36 AM

SQ

Thankyou Will. I appreciate you. I know that my dad listened carefully, o your most genuine words.

Susan Rae Quinn - August 06, 2024 at 02:22 AM

DC

“ To JoAnn and the Jaerger family,
Our hearts go out to all of you at this difficult time. Ed was an incredible person with the warmest smile and a great sense of humor. We will miss our dear neighbor. We are here if you need anything, JoAnn.
With heartfelt condolences,
Dan and Kate Clawson



Dan and Kate Clawson - July 19, 2024 at 10:24 PM

GS

“ Love you dad. Thank you for all the wonderful memories!! To me you were the best!!



Glenda Skaggs - July 19, 2024 at 12:47 AM

GS

“ Glenda Skaggs lit a candle in memory of Edward L. Jaerger



Glenda Skaggs - July 19, 2024 at 12:29 AM

SC

“ My Dad and I worked at Cessna Aircraft Company. On any given day, he would ask me if I wanted to go flying in one of the Cessna Flying Clubs airplanes. We would fly from a 152, 2 person, to a 6 person, 210. Sometimes, we would fly at night which was quite beautiful with all city lights aglow



Sandra (Jaerger) Childs / second child - July 14, 2024 at 12:22 PM

KS

Sandra I'm so sorry for your loss of your dad. I'm sorry also for not keeping in contact with you. I had so much fun with you in school and riding horses. I had no idea the you lived and worked in Wichita. How nice to be working near your dad and just take off in a plane whenever. I hope you're well and I wish you comfort during this time of grief.
Kimberly (Berschauer) Stephens.

Kimberly Stephens - July 15, 2024 at 02:43 PM

CO

“ Collin lit a candle in memory of Edward L. Jaeger



Collin - July 12, 2024 at 11:39 AM