



Lt. Col. Gerald "Jerry" Elbert Dorwart

December 24, 1937 - March 31, 2021

Lt. Col. (Ret) Gerald "Jerry" Elbert Dorwart passed away at his home in Fort Collins, CO on March 31, 2021. On December 24, 1937, Jerry was born to Olive (Elbert) and Jason Dorwart in Friend, Nebraska. Jerry would often remind his family he was the best Christmas gift his parents ever received. Jerry grew up throughout Nebraska, graduating from Saint Patrick's High School, in Sidney, Nebraska in 1955. He attended both Creighton University and Chapman College, graduating from Chapman College with a degree in Business. Jerry joined the Air Force in 1959. While stationed in Minot, North Dakota, he met the love of his life, Faye Olson. Jerry was a B-52 and B-57 Navigator and flew over 400 missions in Vietnam. He was proud of his service but rarely talked about it.

Faye and Jerry married on August 29, 1962. They lived in many places during Jerry's career, including the Philippines, California, South Dakota, Alabama, and others. Jerry and Faye spent twenty years in Nebraska. Jerry loved Husker football. Jerry and Faye were blessed with three spirited daughters, Joan, Karen, and Catherine. Jerry adored spending time with his family, camping in Colorado, teaching his children about the constellations, and traveling with the love of his life. He enjoyed a great party, he could make the best Manhattan, and he loved a good joke. His humor, gentle soul, and boundless love will be missed.

In his later years, he was an active volunteer for McKee Medical Center in Loveland, Colorado, as well as the Veteran's Administration. He devoted his

loving guidance to his six adoring grandchildren, who called him Boppa. His children's and grandchildren's lives are forever changed by having a fantastic role model and hero guiding them. Even as Alzheimer's ravaged his brain and body, he still found ways to bring joy and laughter to his family. He was comforted by hearing Faye's voice or seeing her at his bedside. Faye was his primary caregiver for the last several years, and Jerry's face would light up whenever she entered the room, or he heard her voice. Great love never fades.

Jerry is survived by his beautiful wife of 58 years, Faye (Olson) Dorwart, daughters Joan Dorwart of Bellevue, Nebraska, Karen (Brad) Burke of Windsor, Colorado, Cathy (Alan) Ertzner of Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. Grandchildren Andy Anderson of Boulder, Colorado, Matt Anderson of Bellevue, Nebraska, Abigail Burke of Fort Collins, Colorado, Ryan Burke of Windsor, Colorado, and Haley Ertzner and Eric Ertzner, both of Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. He is survived by brothers Jason Dorwart of Greeley, Colorado, and Clinton (Carol) Dorwart of Albuquerque, NM. Many nieces and nephews also survive him. Some of his extended family helped to care for him in his final months. Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Pat Dellenbach, Margaret (Peg) Peetz, nephews Philip and Daniel Peetz, sisters-in-law Patricia Madson, Mary Baich Olson, Mary Dorwart, and brothers-in-law Richard (Dick) Dellenbach, and Kenneth Peetz.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made in Jerry's name to Rocky Mountain Honor Flight or Pathways Hospice:

Rocky Mountain Honor Flight

<https://rockymountainhonorflight.org/donate-now/>

Rocky Mountain Honor Flight

C/O Terry Garner – Treasurer

912 W. 139th Ct

Westminster, CO 80023-9357

Pathways Hospice

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=pathosp&id=98>

305 Carpenter Rd
Fort Collins, CO 80525

Graveside service will be held Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 2 PM at Fort Logan National Cemetery 4400 W. Kenyon Ave., Denver, CO 80236. Jerry will be buried with full military honors. Service is open to everyone who loved Jerry and his family.

In memory of Jerry, raise a glass and give a toast to those you love and remember him as the amazing man he was to all that knew him. Remember to say "Cheers," Jerry loved to say cheers with the people he loved.

This summer Jerry's family will be hosting a Hawaiian themed party to celebrate Jerry's life. Details will follow.

Cemetery Details

Fort Logan National Cemetery

3698 South Sheridan Boulevard
Denver, CO 80235

Previous Events

Graveside Service with Military Honors

APR 6. 2:00 PM (MT)

Fort Logan National Cemetery
3698 S. Sheridan Blvd. Denver, CO US 80235
Denver, CO 80235

Tribute Wall

CD

“ I remember as a 10 year old, when Jerry was living with his sister and my brother and I were staying his sister also while my folks went on vacation how he was given the task of taking us to and from school at St. Pats. He always treated us with kindness and tried to keep a couple of rowdy young boys under control, 9 and 10, for his sister and for his son-in-laws his parents. He was always kind.

Clint Dorwart

Clinton Dorwart - April 21, 2021 at 02:56 PM

RH

“ Whenever Jerry visited the dealership, he always had a warm smile, a great attitude and an awesome personality. A really fine man.
Ron Heusinkveld

Ron Heusinkveld - April 05, 2021 at 04:06 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
Lt. Col. Gerald "Jerry" Elbert Dorwart.



April 04, 2021 at 10:33 PM

SY

“ *The Buckley AFB military Retiree Activities Office (RAO) would like to offer our sincere condolences and our gratitude for Lt Col Dorwart's service to our country in the Air Force. If you would like help with any matters related to casualty assistance, Defense Finance & Accounting Service, Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Veterans Affairs (VA), etc. you can contact our office on Buckley AFB at 720-847-6693. The RAO is staffed by volunteers, all military retirees themselves, and our sole purpose is to provide assistance to any military retirees and surviving spouses/family members with anything related to their military service and/or benefits, in particular during difficult times such as this. We are deeply sorry for your loss.*

*Steve Young
Lt Col, USAF, Ret
Director, Buckley AFB RAO*

Steve Young - April 04, 2021 at 01:42 PM

BH

“ *Faye, I send you prayers and deepest love to you and your family in hopes of giving you comfort for the loss of your wonderful husband and most treasured friend of ours. Please remember that those who live in the Lord never see each other for the last time.
Love you, Barb Hampton*

Barbara Hampton - April 03, 2021 at 07:34 PM

JF

“ *JD and family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Lt. Col. Gerald "Jerry" Elbert Dorwart.*



JD and family - April 03, 2021 at 03:32 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lt. Col. Gerald "Jerry" Elbert Dorwart.*



April 02, 2021 at 09:00 PM



“ *I have the blessing of working with Karen and knew from the moment I met her how much her family meant to her. I know so many stories about her Dad and one that stayed with me was when I asked colleagues to tell a story using pictures about their life. As Karen shared, she told us about Jerry and how he taught her about constellations. I feel like I know Jerry through Karen's love. My heart holds Karen and her family. Love, Teresa Roche*

Teresa Roche - April 02, 2021 at 02:43 PM