



Ralph Buchanan Jr.

May 20, 1943 - May 15, 2024

SMSgt Ralph Buchanan, Jr. (USAF Ret.), beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather, died from lung cancer peacefully at home with his daughters by his side on May 15, 2024. He was 80 years old.

Ralph was born in Jasper, Georgia, to Ralph and Azzie Buchanan (nee Wofford) on May 20, 1943. He graduated from Pickens High School in 1961.

He was preceded in death by his wife of nearly 50 years, Berit Buchanan (nee Langeland) of Norway and brothers Billy and Jerry Buchanan. He is survived by a sister, Peggy Griffith, two daughters, Sally Miramontes (Marc) and Susan Buchanan (Yassine), three grandchildren, Kirsten Norton (Bruce), Kai Jepson and Donovan Miramontes, one great-grandchild, Kari Norton, and several nieces and nephews including his favorite nephew, Bjornar Londal of Alesund, Norway.

Ralph was the epitome of the American dream, achieving a middle class life through hard work and determination. He was modest about his military career, believing that accolades should be reserved for combat veterans. But his family is proud of his 20-year service to the country in the U.S. Air Force, which took him around the world to exotic places like England, Honduras, Thailand, Korea and Hawaii. He will remain in our hearts forever.

The family would like to thank his oncologist, Dr. Jeter, and his lung specialist, Dr. Wilke, for the exceptional care they provided to him, as well as his compassionate hospice nurses. The family will gather at a later date for a private memorial service.