



Charles Eugene Wallace

March 7, 1945 - July 11, 2018

Major Charles Eugene “Gene” Wallace, 73, died peacefully in San Antonio on July 11, 2018 at University Hospital in the presence of his beloved wife Suzy and son Ray. He served a distinguished military career, both in Southeast Asia as an enlisted airman during the Vietnam Conflict, and as an officer from 1979 to 1994.

Gene was born on March 7, 1945 in Huntsville, Texas to Mary Alline-Angier Wallace and Dr. Raymond Frank Wallace. Shortly after graduating from high school, he crossed the seas for the first time in 1968 to serve his nation in Southeast Asia in the United States Air Force, where he served at the Bien Hoa Air Base and Ham Tan. Shortly afterwards, while assigned to the American Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, he was blessed beyond measure when he met his wife and soulmate Suzy in July 1971. They took their marital vows in Houston, Texas on 24 August 1973, and spent their many years together brightening the lives of those around them.

Gene left the service in 1972 to complete his B.S. degree in Political Science at the University of Houston, and worked as a civilian until 1979, when he completed OTS at Lackland AFB, Texas and was trained as an AWACS Air Surveillance Officer. His distinguished forty-year career in the Air Force and Private Sector included assignments in Management, C4ISR, Counterterrorism, Counterproliferation, Information Operations (IO), Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), and Political/Economic Intelligence. Gene lived & worked in ten different nations across the globe and played an instrumental

role in the development & implementation of programs & contracts for DoD and Federal Law Enforcement and served in Local Law Enforcement as an Auxiliary Police Officer. He retired from his final Air Force assignment in 1994. Gene is survived by his dear wife Suzy, son Ray, daughter-in-law Kimberly, granddaughter Kirana, and another granddaughter on the way. He is predeceased by his parents, and his older sister Margaret Angela Wallace. He leaves behind a vast legion of loving extended family members and grateful friends who have been forever touched by his generosity and kindness.

A graveside service with full military honors will be held Wednesday, 25 July at 10:30 AM at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery (1520 Harry Wurzbach, San Antonio, TX). Rev. Terry Davis from Sequin, Texas will be the presiding pastor. In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes memorial gifts in Gene's memory to the following organizations:

National Stroke Association: https://secure2.convio.net/nsa/site/Donation2?df_id=5023&mfc_pref=T&5023.donation=form1

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society: <https://donate.lls.org/lls/donate>

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Graveside Service with Full Military Honors

JUL **25**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *In November of 1987, I walked into the 728th TCS, Eglin AFB with butter bars on my shoulders. Quickly I was directed to the desk of Capt "CE" Wallace and thus our friendship began, to include Suzy and my wife Andrea.*

Our separate careers took similar paths and I was able to take advantage of Gene and Suzys hospitality in Korea, Washington DC, and San Antonio eating Suzy's fabulous meals and enjoying story time with Gene - always providing his counsel. Andrea and I were able to return the favor hosting them a year ago at our house. Gene and Suzy emulated the perfect marriage, always laughing and having a great time together. She was his rock from which he did all things. It breaks our hearts to lose Gene so soon. Our deepest sympathies to Suzy, Ray, family and friends. May God bless Gene and give him peace.

*With much love,
Jeff and Andrea Burdett*

Jeff Burdett - July 24, 2018 at 11:31 PM

KG

“ I first met Gene when I went to work for him in Korea. One of my earliest memories was when we were deployed to a military exercise at an austere command post, just weeks after my arrival in country, when he burst into the room and said sternly to me, "the general wants to see you NOW." As we rushed our way through the command post, he kept muttering, "I don't know what the heck you did, but he's mad as hell." When we finally got to the general's office, he congratulated me on my promotion and told Gene, "I can't believe you did that!" Gene's action that day set the tone for the entire tour: we worked long and hard doing serious analytic work in dangerous times, but in an environment that felt like family, with humor, with mutual support, with pride. And he blessed us further by sharing his "better half" Suzy, for whom he exhibited a devotion rarely seen this side of heaven. Godspeed, Gene, I salute you!

*Kathy Gauthier
Colonel, USAF (Ret)*

Kathy Gauthier - July 24, 2018 at 09:47 PM

BP

“ Gene had a heart of gold. His level of expertise and his true passion for excellence were evident in all he accomplished. He was a true leader. Gene had a knack for making you feel at home and was sincerely interested in you as a person and a professional. His empathy knew no boundaries. It was definitely a joy to go to work, knowing that Gene would be waiting with a smile, a funny story, and heartfelt appreciation for all we did together while serving our country. He opened his home to us and we will never forget him. Our most sincere condolences go out to Suzy and Ray.

Bill and Nancy Purciello

Bill Purciello - July 23, 2018 at 09:21 PM

LC

“ Gene was the smartest, most likeable man in my auxiliary class for the Fairfax County Police Department. We all enjoyed his sense of humor and extensive knowledge of computers, photography, and fascinating global outlook. He was just a wonderful man with a generous spirit. I enjoyed many a meal with Gene and Suzy - they made everyone feel welcome in their home and Suzy's meals were always incredible. I will really miss you Gene and my endless condolences to Suzy and your family.
Laurian Cannon



Laurian Cannon - July 21, 2018 at 08:22 PM

EM

“ Gene could talk to anyone! He was such a wonderful and entertaining guy to have known; a true friend. My deepest sympathy goes out to Suzy and the family.
Evelyn Montoya

Evelyn Montoya - July 20, 2018 at 01:46 PM

GB

“ Our most heartfelt sympathies to Suzy, Ray, and all of the Wallace family. Gene was an amazing person, full of life and one of the happiest people we have ever known. His wit and cheerfulness were legendary and his generosity unlimited. Gene was so proud to be a husband, father, and grandfather. He was an outstanding colleague, a great friend, and will be greatly missed.

Ana and Jerry Benson

Gerald Benson - July 19, 2018 at 10:04 AM

JG

“ Gene was one of a kind - a true original who marched to the beat of his own drummer - and yet he had a heart full of empathy and a genuine, deep interest in the thoughts and concerns of others. Gene's energy and passion for life were off the charts. His intelligence and range of knowledge and interests were remarkable. He had unsurpassed integrity and courage; Gene told you what he thought and never pulled punches. I always knew I had to bring my "A Game" - and my sense of humor - when I had sat down with him. He had a positive and joyful impact on my life in many ways. My heartfelt condolences go out to Suzy and Ray.

Jim Grant
BGen, USAF (ret.)

Jim Grant - July 19, 2018 at 08:50 AM

RJ

“ We were very saddened to hear of Gene's passing. We had the privilege of working with Gene and considered him a great friend and mentor. We always loved to hear his stories and will greatly miss his humor as well as our numerous dinner dates with Gene & Suzy. Please accept our deepest and heartfelt condolences. Rick & Judy Josten

Rick & Judy Josten - July 18, 2018 at 01:43 PM

LS

“ We were heartbroken to learn that Gene has departed so suddenly, as we have held him so dear to our hearts and cherished him so much over the many years we have been privileged to know him as a dear friend and brother. A more marvelous and stoic man of bravery and tenacity has not walked this earth; he has left us with his gift of precious and yes at times quite entertaining memories which we shall cherish for the rest of our lives. You both are in our thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time. We love you all so much, and join you in spirit during this time of mourning and reflection. Truly Heaven has gained a priceless treasure.

Lee and Jiae Sublett - July 15, 2018 at 09:05 PM