



Edward G. Cotter

October 5, 1932 - July 31, 2019

CMST EDWARD GERALD COTTER USAF Ret.

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Edward Gerald Cotter, more famously known as Grandpa to all, was born on October 5, 1932 in Chelsea, MA, and entered into rest on July 31, 2019 at his home in San Antonio, TX. He was a devout Catholic who was called home to be with the love of his life, Pilar. He was greeted at last by his most favorite grandson Buddy and his baby girl Teresa. As a lifetime military man who served 30 years, he successfully retired as the highest-ranking enlisted Airman: Chief Master Sargent. The Chief selflessly served his country during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He was Air Force proud, but not as proud as he was of his family. Nothing made him happier than his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren. Everywhere he went he bragged about his 19 grandkids and his 28 (with number 29 on the way) great-grandkids. He was proud to tell new people that he met that “we are people makers” Married once before, he had a beautiful daughter named Betty. No matter how long the time had passed in between visits, nothing made him smile like she did. After Korea, he was stationed in El Paso, TX, where he said his life changed forever. His story goes: He worked in a pizza shop that was across from the beauty shop where the love of his life worked. He would regularly go in to get his hair and nails done by her, and soon they fell in love. Grandpa and Grandma were eager to be married and it did not matter to him that she had 3 children from a previous

marriage. He treated them like his own. Daniel, Johanna, and Elizabeth joined the military way of life traveling with him and Grandma. Shortly after their marriage, their first child Deborah Susan was born in El Paso. They then packed up and moved around the country with the Air Force. Their only son Edward Frances was born while they were stationed in Mobile, AL, carrying on the family naming tradition and was named after Grandpa's Father. A few years later their youngest, Teresa Geraldine, was born. After his 30 years of traveling around the world and serving his country, he was ready to retire in the city where he first started at Lackland AFB. They bought a home and made their life here in San Antonio, TX. Once he was retired from the military, he went to work for different companies as engineer in telecommunications. He built new roads and communication structures all around Texas and Oklahoma. Soon he became a Grandpa, his most cherished title by far. If you were ever introduced to him, you would know that he preferred going by Grandpa, telling all newcomers in his life to call him Grandpa Cotter. He spent the rest of his life traveling with his beloved Pilar, their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He took them all around the United States, from Disney Land to Disney World, from Maine to California visiting all his family up and down the different coasts. The man was a devout Patriots fan that always sported his fan jacket when they were in the Super Bowl, no matter how much people around him gave him a hard time. His lasts days were spent at home with the ones he loved the most. All of Grandpa's family members surrounded him, whether it was in person or over video chat. On his last day here on earth he found himself the luckiest man alive to have had all of his children under one roof, where he enjoyed dinner with his beloved daughters and had one last Orange. Grandpa was called home at 0350, peacefully dancing his way to heaven with his wife, while being held in the arms of his grandson, while his daughters stood by his side.

He is preceded in death by his parents Edward and Thelma, his sisters Elaine and Patricia, his grandson Orthus Knighton Lewis IV "Buddy", his daughter

Teresa Lewis, and his beloved wife Pilar. He is survived by his daughters Betty Tousek, Johanna Crow, Elizabeth King, Deborah Susan Cotter, and his only son Edward Cotter and his wife Gina. His brothers, Dennis Cotter and Lawrence Cotter. He is deeply missed and loved by his grandchildren Colt, Blaine, Jaime, Sarah, David, JJ, Holly, Heather, Eddie, Tim, Timmy, Jillian, Tara, Jared, Lance, Olivia, JC, and Hanna. Grandpa was a family man that loved to be around his family more than anything in the world no matter how much he griped. He always wanted his legacy to live on. His legacy lives on through his 28 (with number 29 on the way) great grandkids, and more to come. His face would always light up when we sat around the table playing music and his favorite part of a certain song would come on "I am very proud of my daddy's name, although his kind of music and mine ain't exactly the same." ("Family Tradition," Hank Williams Jr.). A visitation will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2019 starting at 6 PM at Mission Park North Funeral Chapel; followed by the Rosary at 7 PM.

Funeral Mass

Friday, August 16, 2019 10 AM

St Luke's Catholic Church

4603 Manitou RD

San Antonio, TX 78228

Interment will follow the mass at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery where he will be buried with full military honors.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 15. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Rosary

AUG 15. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North
3401 Cherry Ridge Drive
San Antonio, TX 78230

Funeral Mass

AUG 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke Catholic Church
4603 Manitou Drive
San Antonio, TX 78228

Committal Service

AUG **16**. 11:30 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *Travelers Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Edward G. Cotter.*



Travelers Family - August 12, 2019 at 05:18 PM

LJ

“ *Linda Johnson & Lauren Johnson purchased the Written in the Stars for the family of Edward G. Cotter.*



Linda Johnson & Lauren Johnson - August 11, 2019 at 09:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward G. Cotter.*



August 05, 2019 at 06:11 PM

GC

“ Grandpa,
We love you bunches and we will miss you always. You are such a kind, gentle, compassionate, and giving man.

Love,

Gina and Edward F. Cotter



Gina Cotter - August 02, 2019 at 04:10 PM