



## Frederick W. Wendt, Lt Col. US Retired

January 11, 1931 - December 29, 2020

### Obituary for Fredrick W. Wendt

Fredrick W. Wendt, Lt Col. USAF Retired, died December 29, 2020 at his home at The Meadows Retirement Community. Born in San Antonio to Fred A. and Thusnelda (Braun) Wendt, he attended the one-room Clifton Elementary School at San Geronimo, Bandera Elementary, and Comfort schools where he graduated in 1948. He was employed by the Bandera Electric Cooperative until joining the Air Force in 1950. Twenty-two years later Fred retired as a Master Navigator with over 5000 flight hours, mostly in B-36 and B-52 bombers. His military awards include the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Bronze Star Medal. He devoted many of his retirement years to leadership roles of not-for-profit organizations. Fred was a life member of VFW Post 7108, Military Officers Association of America, DAV, Air Force Navigator Observer Association, and the Helotes Festival Association. He also belonged to the Air Force Association and Helotes Hermann Sons Lodge 76.

Fred loved fishing, traveling, and doing genealogical research. His Helotes Area Family Tree computer program included over 4000 names with many Helotes area pioneer ancestors. He was a direct descendent of the pioneer families of the Brauns, Bierings and Guggers who settled in Helotes.

In January 2006, after learning of eminent loss of fire protection in the unincorporated areas around Government Canyon State Natural Area, he led

the Emergency Services Support Organization (ESSO), which was instrumental in voter approval and creation of Emergency Services District #7 (ESD7). Bexar County Commissioners subsequently selected him as a member of the first ESD7 Board of Commissioners. He served as President of ESD7 and of District 7 Fire and Rescue, service provider for ESD7, during the construction and apparatus procurement phases of Station #1 on Galm Road. In February 2008, after having devoted two of his retirement years to public service, he resigned and returned to a less stressful lifestyle. Most of his efforts were to acquire and develop a family recreation area on the banks of the Medina River at its entry to Medina Lake. He was widowed in 2012 and subsequently moved to The Meadows retirement community in San Antonio. Fred was predeceased by his wife of 58 ½ years, Helen, by son James and daughter Linda (aka Loo), both parents, a half-brother Howard Wendt and half-sister Hazel (Wendt) Baas. He is survived by his son David, daughter Beverly Schwartz (John), son-in-law Dennis Smith and daughter-in-law Margarita Coleman (Bill), numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A graveside service will be held at Zion Lutheran Cemetery #1 on Leslie Road at 2 pm Saturday, January 9. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Lakeshore Volunteer Fire Department, 9019 Wharton's Dock Road, Bandera, TX 78003 or to Morningside Ministries Covenant Fund, 7550 IH-10 W. Ste. 210, San Antonio, TX 78229.

# Cemetery Details

## Zion Lutheran Cemetery

9944 Leslie  
San Antonio, TX 78254

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JAN 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Cemetery  
9944 Leslie  
San Antonio, TX 78254

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederick W. Wendt, Lt Col. US Retired.*



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January 07, 2021 at 01:50 PM