



The sad news that former Continental pilot Mark Kilgore has flown west was just received. The Golden Eagles sends condolences to Mark`s family at this difficult time. Rest in peace Mark, and Godspeed on your final flight West.



Mark Kilgore

March 30, 1948 - March 16, 2024

Mark Kilgore Obituary

Mark Henry Kilgore, physicist, pilot, and father, passed away on March 16th, 2024 in his home in Dripping Springs. Born in McAllen, Texas, March 30, 1948, Mark was the eldest of four siblings, including his brothers, Dean and Bill, and his sister, Shannon. His life was distinguished by his unwavering spirit, brilliant mind, and warm, friendly demeanor that drew people to him.

In 1968, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and a Bachelor of Science in Physics. He continued his intellectual pursuits which led him to a Ph.D. in Physics in 1987, the same year his daughter Jane was born.

Aside from science, Mark had a true love in flying. He and his brother Dean joined the Texas Air National Guard in 1969, where they trained to be machinists. In 1976, Mark followed in his grandfather's footsteps to become a military pilot. His skill and dedication became evident in 1978 when he qualified as a fighter pilot. While continuing his military flying at USAF Reserves at Bergstrom AFB in Austin, Mark began his career with Continental Airlines in 1990. After training in F-16s, he retired from the reserves in 1992. Before his retirement in 2008, Mark's aviation career spanned three decades, and a plethora of planes, including F-100s, F-4s, and commercial jets.

Outside of flying, Mark's interest in how things worked permeated his entire life. For as much time as he spent in the cockpit, he spent as much or more time in his workshop, among his collections, or finding just the right solution to whatever problem he faced. Later in life, he enjoyed the camaraderie of cowboy action shooting, as well as the communities he found in his art and veterans' clubs.

Mark's spirit will be carried on by his daughters, Caroline Kilgore and Jane Armstrong (husband Will Armstrong) and grandson, Nolan Armstrong. Throughout his life, Mark remained close with his siblings Dean Kilgore of Driftwood, TX, William Kilgore (wife Mary Lou Kilgore) of Lakeway, TX, and his sister Shannon Kilgore (husband Louis Hine) of Santa Fe, NM, even after the passing of his parents Joe and Jane Kilgore of Austin, TX. He is predeceased by his grandson Franklin Armstrong.

Mark is to be remembered with fondness and admiration as a man who lived life on his own terms and left an indelible mark on the hearts of many.

His questing heart will seek a further shore, --

Death is no harbour for an eagle's wings.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at Harrell Funeral Home Chapel in Dripping Springs, 100 Heritage Drive Austin, TX 78737.

A reception following immediately after the service will be held at route 12 filling station at 31560 Ranch Rd #214 Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Burial will take place at 10:45 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, 1520 Harry Wurzbach Rd, San Antonio, TX 78209.



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