



Please disregard the previous belated Gone West notice for Captain Ray Priest. This corrected version of the recent Gone West notice for Captain Ray Priest corrects the spelling of his last name in several locations in the notice. The incorrect version was inadvertently transmitted on Monday, May 6, 2024 and due to limits on the number of emails sent by our email system, the sending of this correct version was delayed by 24 hours. It is hoped that this error caused only minimal confusion, we apologize for the erroneously transmitted information and we thank those who notified us of the error in our first notice.

This Gone West notice for former Continental and United Captain Ray Priest who flew West on May 27, 2023, is just now being provided due to its late receipt. Thanks to Golden Eagles member and former Continental Captain Bob Stetser for providing this information. While this sad news is one year after the fact, we feel our members who knew and flew with Ray will appreciate knowing the possibly previously unknown information contained in his obituary.

The Golden Eagles sends belated condolences to Captain Priest's family and

we hope they are able to find solace in the many loving memories they have of their time with him. May he rest in peace.

Bob Stetser`s email advising of Ray`s passing, as well as Ray`s obituary, are posted below.

"I recently learned that an old flying buddy, retired Continental pilot and fellow Marine, Ray Priest, passed away in May 2023. I may have missed the gone west notice, as I was going through cancer treatment at the time. His death was 5-27-2023. Just in case the information was never given to you, I will include a link to his obituary. Bob Stetser"



Captain Ray Priest

March 11, 1942 - May 27,

2023

Obituary:

Ray Walter Priest III was born in Pasadena, Texas on March 11,1942 and died peacefully at home in Conroe on May 27,2023.

Preceding him in death were his father Ray Priest Jr., mother Mary Lou Durham, and brother Daniel Wren Priest. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Donna Ray Priest, sons David Ray Priest & Randall Ray Priest, brother, Larry Priest, daughter-in-laws Stacy Abella & Kendra Priest and grandchildren Avery, Celeste, and Stephen Priest.

Ray joined the Marines after graduation from Pasadena High School in 1959 where he played trumpet in the band. He later played in church orchestras and played Taps anywhere he was asked. He began his career as an airline pilot flying for Trans Texas Airways, Continental Airlines and retired at age 60 from United Airlines. Ray was active in the Marine Corps League of Conroe where he loved working with Toys for Tots every Christmas. He was a member of Marine Corps Musicians where he served as President and reunion chairman where he and Donna attended many reunions at Marine bases all across the country. He served as a Deacon at First Baptist and for many years volunteered serving lunch once a month at the Salvation Army. Ray willed that he be buried at the Houston National Cemetery, and he was interred there in a private family service.



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