



The obituary posted below was provided by Captain Dick Hillman`s daughter, Kimberly Hillman, and is posted subsequent to the Gone West notice that was posted to our members on November 11, 2023.



Richard Joel Hillman, 85, of San Luis Obispo passed away on November 6, 2023.

Richard was born on July 14, 1938 to David and Elizabeth (Betty) Hillman in

Los Angeles. After Richard graduated from San Dieguito High School in 1956, he went on to study engineering at the United States Air Force Academy and graduated with a B.S. in 1960. Richard subsequently went on to earn a Master's degree in Systems Management from U.S.C.

He was active duty as a fighter pilot in the USAF for 7 years, served in the Air National Guard for 9 years, then as a USAF Academy liaison officer for 5 years. He retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1981.

Richard was with Continental Airlines from 1967-1994. He began as a pilot but was promoted several times – from Flight Instructor, to Chief Pilot, to Staff VP of Flying, to VP of Flight Operations Systems and Standards, to VP Flight Operations, and finally, to VP Human Resources and Training. He left Continental for a short stint at Air Tran Airways as Sr. VP Operations before semi-retiring to work as an aviation consultant from 1996 – 2012.

First an avid runner, completing multiple marathons, Richard moved on to cycling and eventually swimming. A good tennis, racquetball, and squash player, he loved exercising, being outdoors, working on his various vintage cars and spending time with his family and dogs.

He married his wife, Marilyn (Midge, now Meg) in 1963 – family friends since childhood – and was happily married for 60 years. He is survived by Meg, his four children – Kimberly, Sid (David), Daniel, and Rachael – their spouses and 6 grandchildren.

Memorial Service will be held January 20, 2024 in San Luis Obispo, California (time and location to be announced).



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