



## Colonel George H. Saylor, USAF Retired

June 17, 2020

Colonel George H. Saylor, USAF Ret. passed away peacefully on Wednesday June 17, 2020 in Millbrook, AL. The self-proclaimed "old goat" was 99 years young. He was born in 1921 to still-very-rural Harlan, Kentucky. As he and his childhood friends watched planes fly overhead, he knew that was to be his life's mission. Saylor later attended East Tennessee State University, where he would simultaneously procure his pilot's license while finishing out required coursework. After graduating, he joined the Army Air Corps and was sent to the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center - known to day as Lackland Air Force Base. He would soon find himself rising through the ranks, eventually filling the role of instructor for World War II-bound cadets.

In 1944, Saylor was called on to take part in the larger war effort. He was sent to Calcutta, flying the dangerous "Hump" of the Himalayan Mountains across China, Burma, and India. By war's end in 1945, Saylor had decided it was time to leave the service - this didn't last long. After a brief stint selling insurance, he was offered an opportunity to return. He joined an elite group of pilots known as the "Cotton Pickers", flying what were then top-secret missions over Russia during the Cold War. He served in similar manner during the Korean War, rounding out an illustrious and decorated 30 year career. After retiring, he led by example in showing how to love. Saylor is survived by his beloved wife Patti; a son, Hank; a daughter, Lisa; a dog, Tachikawa; and four loving grandchildren - Patti, Haagen, Jacob, and Kate. Saylor will be laid to rest at the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, AL. A ceremony with

full military honors will be held at a later date. Brookside Funeral Home of Millbrook, AL directing.

# Tribute Wall

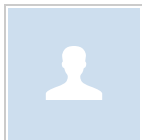


“ *Mr Jake was my father you might as well say I was only lucky enough to know him for about 4 years but I will never forget him truly a great man.*



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**Aaron Roy** - June 22, 2024 at 07:30 PM



“ *Colonel George H. Saylor, USAF Retired*

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October 09, 2023 at 12:36 PM



“ *Colonel George H. Saylor, USAF Retired*

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October 07, 2023 at 11:21 AM