



William Edward Black, Sr.

June 12, 1930 - May 18, 2012

William Edward Black, passed away on May 18, 2012 at home at the age of 81. He was preceded in death by his father, Edward Henry Black. He is survived by , Barbara Elaine Hamilton-Black, his wife of sixty years; five children, William, Jr., Jennifer (Edwin) and Ross of Richmond, Virginia, as well as Elizabeth (Alan) and David of California; five grandchildren, Kia, Tyler and Howard Glenn of Richmond; Laia (Todd) of Virginia Beach and Sean of Morgan Hill, California;; five great-grandchildren; Cana, Reaiah and Ajah of Virginia Beach and Mikhele and Landon of Richmond. He is also survived by his mother, Lillian Black, one brother, Ralph Howard (Fannie) and three sisters, Barbara Johnson (William) of Charleston, South Carolina; Lillian Coles (Frederick) of New Haven, Connecticut, and Janice Gore (Michael) of Richmond.

Biography:

William E. Black was born in Derby, Connecticut, on June 12, 1930 to Edward and Lillian Black. He was raised in the nearby city of Ansonia. By all accounts he had a wonderful and magical childhood, and graduated from Ansonia High School as class valedictorian in 1948. After high school he attended the University of Connecticut at Storrs for two years majoring in electrical engineering.

On May 19, 1952 he married Barbara Hamilton, whom he met while visiting his

maternal grandmother who lived in New Haven.

In late 1952, he joined the Air Force with the hope of becoming a pilot. He successfully completed pilot training, earned his wings and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant on May 12, 1954. He proudly served in the Air Force for twenty years, and was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for meritorious service as a Crew Commander. He was twice awarded the Air Medal for outstanding airmanship and courage. During his service he reached the rank of Major, flew forty-two combat missions over Vietnam and amassed 5,650 total flight hours. He also completed degree requirements to earn a B.A. Degree in History from Chapman College in Orange, California and with considerable help from his wife, raised five children.

After retiring from the Air Force, he earned a Masters Degree in Education (emphasis on mathematics) from the American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, which led to the beginning of his second career of teaching high school math. He also taught math and computer science at Commerce High School in Springfield for more than twenty years before retiring to Richmond, Virginia, to be closer to his grandchildren. Escaping New England winters also played a role in this decision.

He had a lifelong passion for golf, but by the time he moved to Richmond he was not able to play regularly. Instead, he devoted himself to his passion for math, history and chess. He was very generous and donated regularly to various charities.

Cemetery Details

Washington Memorial Park

6217 Memorial Dr.
Sandston, VA 23150

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAY 25. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Avenue
Richmond, VA 23222
(804) 321-4200
info@marchfh.com
<https://www.marchfuneralhomevirginia.com/>

Service

MAY 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *William Edward Black, Sr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *You were a great brother and I will miss you. Bill and I will always remember the great trips we took with you and Barbara. My children have very fond memories of you and the fun they had talking with you. You were such a caring and generous person, always ready to help others out. Your pain and suffering are over now, and for that we all rejoice. Your loving sister, Barbara*



Barbara Johnson & family - May 22, 2012 at 10:22 PM



“ *Grandpa,
I have spent a lot of time reflecting on the time I had with you and all of the things that you have taught me throughout the years. I am forever grateful and I love and miss you beyond words.*

*Love,
Kai*

Kai Smith - May 22, 2012 at 02:06 PM

PF

“ *Pamela Lyn & Family lit a candle in memory of William Edward Black, Sr.*



Pamela Lyn & Family - May 22, 2012 at 11:00 AM

PF

My dad spoke often about the fun times that you shared as brothers when you were children. It always brings a smile to my face. My Uncle Bill is now in Heaven with his dad. I'm sure he missed him. Now he is with him. No more sickness....no more pain. The family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

*God Bless,
The David & Pam Lyn Family*

Pamela Lyn & Family - May 22, 2012 at 11:06 AM

RB

“ *You were a fantastic brother, husband and father and grandparent. we will all miss you but God knows best and will welcome you with open arms, Rest in peace and one day we will all be together and rejoice and give praise to God. Love You.
Your Brother
Howard Black*



Ralph H. Black - May 22, 2012 at 09:09 AM

MS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss and would like to offer my condolences to your family. Death is such a terrible thing for a family to go through, I actually lost my mom about 3yrs ago. I'm truly grateful that I have the truth about death and look forward to the future when there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.”— ACTS 24:15. I'm sure you would love to see your dead loved one again in the coming Paradise here on earth! Again so sorry for your loss!!

Ms Springer - May 21, 2012 at 11:35 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - May 21, 2012 at 02:48 PM