



Colonel Hubert "Buddy" Earl Wrenn

June 15, 1935 - February 16, 2025

"Buddy" was a kind and caring man. One of the last true gentlemen. He always thanked those who helped him and wanted to make sure all around him knew they were appreciated. You always felt loved after spending an afternoon talking or playing cards with him.

Buddy passed away peacefully in his sleep at the Lake Manassas Health and Rehabilitation Center in Gainesville on February 16, 2025 at the age of 89. He was born June 15, 1935 to Mary Virginia Jackson Wrenn and Ralph Hubert Wrenn, both deceased. Growing up, he delighted in tormenting his big sister, Myrtice Clark (deceased), with his best friend Jack Gilley(deceased). Famously ruining her baking cakes by jumping up and down in the kitchen until they fell. That was the beginning of years of sibling fun. Buddy grew up in Danville, Virginia and attended Averett College where he met the love of his life, Janet Lieske (deceased). They soon married in Roselle, New Jersey and had two daughters, Lori Lee Brickley (deceased) and Cynthia Lynn Wrenn.

Because of his great love and pride in being an American, Buddy enlisted in the Air Force in 1955. He was noticed by an officer searching for bright soldiers to join the growing field of blood banking and lab work which led to more school and him being commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Biomedical Services Corps. His assignments included time at Lackland Air Force Base and in Bitburg, Germany. As a lab technician, he was part of the

group that completed physicals on the Apollo Astronauts and he also worked with the doctors who conducted one of the first successful full body, blood transfusions. Additionally, he published articles about his work.

Due to his expertise and impeccable work ethic, Buddy was eventually assigned to the Pentagon Chief Policy and Programs Division in the Office of the Surgeon General and then went on to become a Senior Inspector of Biomedical Services. He retired a full Colonel at Bowling AFB, surrounded by family, including his mother, Virginia.

For more on Buddy's military career follow the following link to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project: https://www.loc.gov/item/afc2001001.106285/#item-service_history. His granddaughter, Meg Price conducted the interview.

Besides his family and career, Bud's great passions included model airplane building and flying, fishing, traveling and visiting casinos, especially with Janet. He thoroughly enjoyed playing cards, especially Hand and Foot, with us all. He was a dedicated member of the Woodbridge Rotary Club, once serving as their President.

Buddy is preceded in death by his parents, Virginia Jackson Wrenn and Ralph H. Wrenn, his sister, Myrtice Clark, his wife, Janet Lieske Wrenn and his youngest daughter, Lori Lee Brickley. He is survived by his daughter Cynthia Lynn Wrenn, his half-sisters Beth Wrenn Underwood, Brock Wrenn Lending and his half-brother Carl Wrenn. He will also be dearly missed by his grandchildren Kay Wrenn Swecker, Justin Brickley, Margaret Price, and his wider family including Terri Schulkan and Dave Brickley, Jr. and their children. He has two surviving great-granddaughters Julia and Livia Price who always delighted him. He will also be remembered joyfully by his many beloved cousins, nephews, nieces and friends. He will be greatly missed but the love

he shared will continue to live on in our memories forever.

Buddy would also wish us to thank the many kind people he worked with and who cared for him at the Lake Manassas Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Services for Hubert Wrenn will be held in Danville, VA in early spring on a date to be announced later. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the USO, as he did each year.

https://secure.uso.org/OM_BRD/?sc=WB24SRCH09&utm_medium=gs_ad&utm_source=google&utm_campaign=search0424&gad_source=1&gbraid=0AAA AAD20_EIXQ-qcsT3Bz6xhfLUavpQIZ

Tribute Wall

BS

“ It's April 15th, 2025. Recently, I have been thinking about a big part of my life which was spent in the Air Force as a blood banking specialist. This evening the name Bud Wrenn came to mind so, of course, I googled him. To my dismay, I found the obituary of my old friend and mentor whose passing happened only two months ago.

As a young, enlisted man, I worked for Bud in the blood bank at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio. He was a personable and encouraging leader. We became close.

Time passed and different assignments caused a parting of the ways for several years. We crossed paths again as training and advancements set in motion a series of new jobs for me. It was as if I began to follow in his footsteps. It didn't take long for me to realize that Bud had a hand in those postings to some of the same jobs he held during his career. Included was a staff position in the Surgeon General's office and ended back at Wilford Hall where I had the privilege of trying to fill his shoes in the blood bank. Bud was always available with words of wisdom and guidance.

We lost contact after both of us retired some years ago. Wilford Hall was torn down last year and now Bud is gone. I will grieve his loss along with his family and friends. He was indeed an officer and a gentleman.

Thank you, Bud, for everything. You will be greatly missed.

*Bob Sawyer, Maj (Ret), USAF
San Antonio, TX*

Bob Sawyer - April 21, 2025 at 10:18 PM



“ I'm so sorry that we lost this beloved man. My heart goes out to his family. Bud and Janet used to come into the bank in Montclair, Crestar at the time, pretty regularly with their winnings and we would always cheer the fact that they were such lucky people. Years passed, and the bank changed names a few times, I went to my first Woodbridge Rotary meeting and to my surprise a friendly, familiar face was there with a huge smile and a warm greeting, Bud Wrenn. The Rotary Club is where I got to really know Bud and just what a kind thoughtful man he was. He loved his family deeply and was so proud of his daughters and grandchildren, always beaming when he talked about their achievements and vacations to Aruba, etc. One day he brought me a gift as a souvenir from ages ago, a Crestar Bank pen. It was the most heartwarming gift from a man who always made people feel special. I still have that pen. My sincerest sympathy to his family at this difficult time.

Jo-Ellen Benson - March 01, 2025 at 09:07 PM

DK

“ My daughter Dena and I only knew Bud, his daughter Cindy, and his son-in-law Andrew for 40 days as my husband John had the room next to Bud at Lake Manassas Health and Rehab Facility but in that short time Bud and his family made a lasting impression on us for the love they had for each other...I feel privileged to have known Bud and know he will be missed by so many...having him in the next room made our visits to Rehab a much better experience...our sincerest sympathy

dottie Kraft - February 21, 2025 at 08:12 PM

CW

Thank you so much, Dottie. It was so nice seeing you all each day and we all missed you when John moved on.

Cindy Wrenn - February 26, 2025 at 10:26 AM