



## Major Alfred S. Despres Jr.

March 7, 2017

Major Alfred S. Despres, Jr., USAF Retired, 88, of Hudson, NH, died Tuesday, March 7th.

Alfred was born to Alfred S. Despres Sr. and Bernadette (Ouellette) in Jaffrey, NH. He grew up in Jaffrey and attended Conant High School. From an early age he had a fascination with airplanes that would last a lifetime. He soloed for his pilot's license at Silver Ranch Airpark in Jaffrey, NH, while still in high school. Following graduation, Alfred joined the U.S. Air Force. Throughout his 20 years of service, he was stationed at bases and flew missions around the world. He served in the 40th Bomb Wing, Air Weather Service, and in Strategic Air Command. Alfred was awarded the Airman's Medal for Heroism by the U.S. Air Force and selected for the Cheney Award for his act of valor and risk to life in his rescue efforts of pilot and crew in their burning plane after a crash landing in January 1960 at Eielson AFB, Alaska.

After retirement from the Air Force, he worked at Boire Field, Nashua, and then at the Manchester Airport as Chief Mechanic Inspector for Precision Airlines and Northwest Airlinck. After his retirement from Precision, he continued his love of flying, participating for the next 20 years with friends in "The Dawn Patrol" group flying around New England. He was active in the V.F.W. and Knights of Columbus at St. John the Evangelist, Hudson, and later at St. Finbarr, Naples, FL.

Alfred is survived by his wife of 53 years, Marian (Schrader); his children Mary Donovan and husband Brian, Stan Despres and wife Tracy, Anne Despres, Cherie Despres; and grandchildren Katy Rose Donovan, Daniel and David Despres. Alfred was predeceased by his brother Joseph Despres. He is survived by his brothers Charles, Robert, David and wife Violet; sisters Betty Twitchell and husband Terry, Pamela Parrish, and Peggy Paige and husband Nick; sister-in-law Rita Despres, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Burial and graveside service will be held Friday, May 12th, 2 p.m. At the Mount Calvary Cemetery located at 10-12 Ling Street, Marlborough, NH. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to make a donation may make contributions in Alfred's memory to the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire, 27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, NH, 03053.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

10 Ling Street  
Marlborough, NH

# Tribute Wall



“ *Major Alfred S. Despres Jr.*

October 06, 2023 at 08:13 AM



“ *Major Alfred S. Despres Jr.*

September 27, 2023 at 04:05 AM



“ *Dear Marian and family , Peace be with you all during this time. Know my prayers are with you all. For Al our family is eternally Greaful for his courageous selfless act of courage to save our fathers life ..for without him our family would have been lost without him. Most of all ..after our father recovered he was able to see his 5th child born..a dream he had planned from the time he married my mother..that 5th child was me. Al was not only was hero but my real life hero as well. Our dad left this world several years ago but I know in my heart they are together again what a reunion. May God comfort you all always and give you peace. All my love, Kathy Hahn Barker.*



**Kathy Hahn Barker** - April 10, 2017 at 09:35 AM



“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



**Kathy Hahn Barker** - April 10, 2017 at 07:02 AM

DS

“ Dear Marion and Family We feel your loss. Al was a great man and hero to a lot of people. One being my dad. He was also blessed to have a wonderful wife and family. All our love and prayers to you and yours.

*Debbie Hahn Stewart*

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**D. STEWART** - April 09, 2017 at 11:23 AM

DL

“ Dear Marian and family. Our deepest sympathies and prayers are with you during this difficult time. We cherish the time we were able to spend with Al. He was a remarkable man with a wonderful family. In Christ,

*Dianne and Ron Lutz*

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**Di Lutz** - March 18, 2017 at 09:16 AM

BR

“ My prayers are with you in this time of great loss. Always in our hearts.

*Love, Bob Roussel*

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**Bob Roussel** - March 17, 2017 at 02:46 PM

 Laurie  
Nehm

“ I remember Mr. & Mrs. Despres from when I was back in middle school. My sympathies to my former classmate, Mary, and the rest of the family... your patriarch was clearly an incredible / remarkable man.

*In sympathy,  
Laurie (Molkentine) Nehm*

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**Laurie Nehm** - March 16, 2017 at 10:12 AM

Jl

“ So sorry to hear of Al's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
Love Janet Irwin



Janet Irwin - March 15, 2017 at 01:52 PM

DUMONT-  
SULLIVAN  
FUNERAL HOME

“ 29 files added to the album Life Tributes



Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes - March 15, 2017 at 01:47 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Major Alfred S. Despres Jr..



March 15, 2017 at 10:10 AM