



Frank William Cardwell Sr

July 26, 1932 - November 4, 2012

Frank William Cardwell Sr., 80, of Ephrata, Washington was born July 26, 1932 and passed away November 4, 2012 at the Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee, Washington. Frank died from complications associated with a heart condition he had lived with for several years. He passed away in the company of his loving wife, sons and daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren in a celebration of his life that would not have been possible without the staff and doctors of Central Washington Hospital. Frank passed at ease and comfortable knowing his family was with him and loved him. His family was his life and his life was his family's. He will be missed very much.

Frank was born in rural Jackson County Tennessee to Samuel and Lena Cardwell also of Jackson County. He was the oldest son and was preceded in death by his parents, older sisters Margret and Maverine, and his younger brother and sister, Daniel and Sandra. While he was still young, Frank's family moved to Detroit, Michigan where he completed elementary school and high school. Frank was a hard working grocer through high school and worked a short time for the Chrysler Corporation before enlisting in the United States Air Force in 1950. He started his military career at Lackland AFB Texas and was assigned to Eglin AFB Florida in 1951. In 1953 he had a very short assignment in the Netherlands before landing at Manston RAFB England in 1954 where he met and married Yvonne at Saint Stephens Parish Church in Canterbury, England. They returned to renew their vows at Saint Stephens 50

years later in 2005. Frank was re-assigned to Tinker AFB Oklahoma in 1958, Naha AFB Okinawa in 1962, Randolph AFB Texas in 1966, and back to Lakenheath RAFB England in 1967. He and his family enjoyed traveling Great Britain, Europe, and the Mediterranean until his final re-assignment in 1972 to Fairchild AFB Washington where he retired from 22 years of active duty as a Master Sergeant, Chaplin Specialist, NOIC. Frank was assigned to the Air Force Reserve until his final discharge in 1982.

Upon retirement from active service in the USAF, Frank and his family moved to Medical Lake, Washington. He attended Eastern State University in Cheney, Washington, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree, Cum Laude in 1977. In 1978 Frank began a very challenging and rewarding second career with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services in Grant and Adams Counties. Frank and his family moved to Ephrata, Washington where he and his wife, Yvonne, became a very active home for his 5 kids, 12 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. In addition to their own descendants, Frank and Yvonne were foster parents for hundreds of children over the 30 years they served with Washington State's Foster Care Program at their home in Ephrata. Frank retired from DSHS in 1997. Shortly after retirement he was appointed to serve on the Area Agency on Aging by Governor Gary Locke.

Frank is survived by Yvonne, his loving wife of 58 years, his sons Frank, Jr., John, Gregory, and Daniel, daughter, Tamara, and his 13 grandchildren and his 12 great grandchildren. Frank will be remembered as often traveling with a large family group in a variety of clothing that showed off his connections to the Eastern Washington University Eagles, Gonzaga University Zags, WSU Cougars, WWU Vikings, and the Ephrata Tigers. He enjoyed history and historic memorabilia and had a love of gardening and photography. Frank and Yvonne attended St. John's Episcopal Church in Ephrata. Frank was a very encouraging father, grandfather and great grandfather. He worked hard to

provide the best opportunities he could so each one of his family would enjoy a rewarding life and we are all very grateful for him and the riches we have because he was in our lives.

Church services for MSgt Frank William Cardwell Sr. will take place on Tuesday November 13th at 12:00 pm in the Fairchild Airforce Base Chapel, 300 E Poplar Ave # 113, Fairchild Air Force Base, WA. He will be given a military honor ceremony and laid to rest in the Washington State Veteran's Cemetery near Medical Lake at 3:00 pm. A reception will begin at 5:00 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, 9015 West Hwy 2, Spokane. In lieu of flowers, his family asks we support veterans with a gift to the Washington State Veterans Cemetery, 21702 West Espanola Road, Medical Lake, WA 99022. Guests planning to attend the Chapel service at the Fairchild Airforce Base will need to call ahead (509) 247-2264 or email phillip.boal@us.af.mil For directions to the cemetery please visit <http://www.dva.wa.gov/PDF%20files/Dedication%20Event%20-%202010.pdf>

Please express your thoughts and memories for the family and view the online tribute video at nicolesfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the direction of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata, WA.

Cemetery Details

Washington State Veterans Cemetery

21702 West Espanola Road
Medical Lake, WA 99022

Previous Events

Service

NOV 13. 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

Fairchild Air Force Base Chapel
300 E Poplar Ave #113
Fairchild Air Force Base, WA 99011
phillip.boal@us.af.mil

Graveside

NOV 13. 3:00 PM (PT)

Washington State Veterans Cemetery
21702 West Espanola Road
Medical Lake, WA 99022

Tribute Wall



“ *Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park created a Tribute Video in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park - November 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ *I send my condolences to the cardwell family and my foster dad and my foster mom and my sister Tamara blessings and prayers for you and family*



megan Ellstrom - June 16, 2023 at 09:49 PM

JL

“ *Jenny Livingston lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



jenny livingston - January 12, 2013 at 01:13 AM

TC

“ *Missing you more and more each day. Love you dad.*



Tamara Cardwell - November 28, 2012 at 02:18 PM



“ *Im so sorry to hear about Frank. He has been such a blessing to our family as well as given us some awesome encouragment thru our foster care days. He always had great things to share and say about others. He is and always will be Grandpa Cardwell to our little guy chance. you and grandma have created some awesome memories for Chance during his respite days with you. YOu will be greatly missed. RIP in the arms of Jesus my friend
Love the Morris family*

Kathy Morris - November 18, 2012 at 03:06 PM

KK

“ *My thoughts are with the entire Cardwell clan.*



Kim Kinney - November 16, 2012 at 02:11 PM

KS

“ Frank touched the lives of many people – friends, colleagues, and family – and he will be deeply missed. He was a strong and kind leader of his family and only wanted the best for others. You were blessed to have him in your lives and his spirit will live on in his children and their children.

Kay Schrimshaw - November 16, 2012 at 01:01 PM

KS

“ Kay Schrimshaw lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr



Kay Schrimshaw - November 16, 2012 at 12:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Richard & Margaret Bacon - November 15, 2012 at 09:04 PM

GB

“ Gene Bradham lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr



Gene Bradham - November 14, 2012 at 05:31 AM



“ *Matt, Sandrine Silk lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Matt, Sandrine Silk - November 13, 2012 at 02:20 PM



“ *I learned SO much about family and about being a grandparent from Frank, who was exemplary at it. I'm grateful I had the opportunity to be part of his extended family, and for all the things I learned from him. Lynn*

Lynn Johnson - November 13, 2012 at 11:08 AM



“ *Kathleen Miller lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Kathleen Miller - November 11, 2012 at 02:03 PM

BS

“ So sorry to hear of Frank's passing. While I've only had a handful of conversations with Frank over the last 20 years at family gatherings, I've made a number of observations about Frank - all positive. He was very warm and friendly to everybody. He was extremely kind hearted and easy going. He had a fun sense of humor and was always upbeat and happy. He loved his family deeply and it always showed! Frank, you will be missed by all! We have nothing but the fondest of memories for Frank, and our thoughts are with the family at this time. We are sorry for your great loss,

Bob Schrimshaw

Bob Schrimshaw - November 11, 2012 at 01:51 PM

TG

“ *Tracie Geer lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Tracie Geer - November 10, 2012 at 11:11 AM

MK

“ *Maggie & Steve Kaminoff lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Maggie & Steve Kaminoff - November 09, 2012 at 08:38 PM

AL

“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Amanda Lawter - November 09, 2012 at 07:52 PM

PC

“ *Patricia Mary Stout Chene lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Patricia Mary Stout chene - November 09, 2012 at 07:24 PM

TL

“ *Tammy Lawter lit a candle in memory of Frank William Cardwell Sr*



Tammy Lawter - November 09, 2012 at 06:18 PM

TL

I am so sorry for the loss of this wonderful man to the many family members and friends he had. I have not known Frank very long but, in the few years that I have known him I can tell you he was a very loved man by many! Many will miss him, especially the people who did not get to know him. They will never know what a great man he was. Prayers are sent to the entire family!

Tammy Lawter - November 09, 2012 at 06:21 PM