



Railsplitter Obituary



Ralph Texas Potter

Retired Lieutenant Colonel Ralph T. Potter, aged 94, peacefully passed away in hospice surrounded by his loving family on Friday, July 15, 2022, in Panama City, FL. Tex, as he was known to friends, was born in Galveston, TX on February 5, 1928, to parents, Ralph and Sara (Pederson/Peterson) Potter. Tex was formerly a resident of the town of Donald in Taylor County Wisconsin.

Tex enlisted in the Merchant Marines at age 17, joining the US Army upon his 18th birthday. He served in Europe during WWII as part of the post-war occupying troops and Korea. He would go on to serve thirty years active duty and as a part-time and full-time reservist for the Army.

Following his military career, Tex worked for the Department of Defense at Fort McPherson in Atlanta, GA and at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Panama City, FL.

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Tex was preceded in death by his best friend and wife, Daela (Dee) Potter. They spent 60 years traveling together throughout the US, visiting 49 states. Tex was most happy on the road with his fifth wheel camper in tow, excited to discover what was waiting around the next bend down the highway. He loved fishing, beer, milk chocolate and peanut butter cookies.

He is survived by his three children, Diana Pritchard of Panama City, FL, David (Marie) Potter of Helena, MT, and Margaret (John) Webster of Lynn Haven, FL. His grandchildren Debra (Jeff) King, Dixie Clough, Zoe Potter and Daela Webster.

Interment with full military honors at Barrancas National Cemetery, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL will be scheduled for a later date.