



Gerald M. Romine

July 30, 1928 - March 9, 2024

Gerald M. Romine, 95, of Mentone, Ind. passed peacefully at 6:55 pm, Saturday, March 9, 2024 at his residence.

Gerald was born on July 30, 1928, in Mentone to J. Monroe “Dutch” and Maude (Hissong) Romine. He had a brother Kenneth and a sister Janet. He was a 1946 graduate from Mentone High School. In July 1946, he went right into the U.S. Army. He attended basic training and advanced individual training at Fort Belvoir, Va. In Nov. 1946, he was sent off to Camp Kilmer, N.J., to await orders to Italy. He served from September 1946 until he was honorably discharged in November 1947 with the rank of technician fourth grade (E4). During his service he received the World War II Victory Medal, Army Occupation Medal and the M1 Sharpshooter Rifleman Badge.

After Gerald’s discharge from the U.S. Army, he enlisted into the U.S. Air Force Reserves in 1950. He was stationed at Atterbury Army Airfield near Columbus, Ind., which was separate from the U.S. Army’s training facility at Camp Atterbury. Gerald was assigned to the 434th Air Refueling Wing. Gerald married Donna Lee Linn on Jan. 29, 1950. Their union brought the birth of their children Gary and Susan. In 1951, Gerald was recalled to active duty and told to report to Scott Air Force Base in East St. Louis, Ill. He reported back to the Air Force Reserve unit where he remained until his discharge in 1955 with the rank of technical sergeant (E6). In his civilian life,

Gerald was an electrical contractor and owner of Romine Electric for over 50 years. During that time, he serviced homes, factories and many businesses in the Mentone and surrounding area. Gerald continued to look for ways to serve his community. He was the founder and director of the Bell Aircraft Museum in Mentone from 1973 to 1978. He became the first president of the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Dept. Merit Board and served as president for Mentone's Town Board, Chamber of Commerce and Alumni Association. He served on the Advisory Board for Murphy Medical Center and the Rozella Ford Golf Course in Warsaw. For 10 years he was a Marshal during the Phoenix Open golf tournament in Arizona.

After the tragic passing of his wife Donna on July 22, 1988, he later married Elvira L. "Beezy" Reed on Nov. 24, 1995. She preceded him on Nov. 28, 2018.

In May 2011, Gerald received the 434th Air Refueling Wing Honorary Aircrew Member Award. At which time he was fortunate enough to participate in a refueling mission in an old KC-135R Stratotanker with the combat-ready aircrew in 2014.

Gerald is survived by his children Gary Romine of Mentone and Susan and husband Eldon Kinney of Silver Lake, granddaughters Teena, Sarah, and Emily, 2 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren, sister Janet Smith and husband Don Hall of Atwood, and his caregiver Linda Frenger. He was also preceded by his parents, brother and sister-in-law Kenneth and Mary Esther Romine, brother-in-law Thomas Smith, niece Pam Smith, and nephews John and Bob Romine.

Gerald was a proud Democrat. He served his party as a delegate to the Conventions from 1972 to 1986. He was a life member of the American

Legion as well as the past Commander and Veteran of Foreign Wars and was a proud member of the Mentone community.

A graveside service will be held at 11:00 am, Thursday, March 21, 2024 at the Mentone Cemetery, Mentone, Indiana with graveside military rites performed to honor his service.

The arrangements have been entrusted to King Memorial Home 101 North Tucker Street Mentone, Indiana.

Memorial contributions can be made in his memory to the Mentone 4-way Ambulance Service.

Cemetery Details

Mentone Cemetery

Morgan St Jefferson Street
Mentone, IN 46539

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mentone Cemetery
Morgan St Jefferson Street
Mentone, IN 46539

Tribute Wall

KM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Bill, Faye, and Kelly Smith*

Kelly Miller - March 14, 2024 at 07:20 PM

WH

“ *Gary so sorry to hear about your dad.*

William Harrell - March 13, 2024 at 12:18 PM

PM

“ *So sorry to hear about Gerald. He was quite the ornery one. Always funny. He really liked you Linda.*

Patti Miner - March 12, 2024 at 12:23 PM

SM

“ *Sympathy and prayers, our hearts are with you. Reflect on good memories, for there are many.*



Sal and Jo Murcia - March 12, 2024 at 09:22 AM