



MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton

April 24, 1932 - March 11, 2013

MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton, son of the late Garl and Kathryn (Hawn) Payton, was born April 24, 1932 in East Liverpool, Ohio.

In 1950, Ray entered the United States Army and served his country faithfully until his retirement in 1976. For his faithful service, Ray earned several awards and commendations; some of which included: Army Occupation Medal (Germany), National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal (6th Award), National Defense Service Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Occupation Medal, Bronze Star Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal, Overseas Service Bars (4), Vietnam Service Medal w/1 Silver Service Star, Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Bronze Service Stars, Air Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation w/Palm, along with several others. He had attained the rank of Master Sergeant.

While stationed in Germany, Ray met the love of his life, Hildegard Schneider and they were united in marriage on September 17, 1957 in Kaiserslautern, Germany. They shared over 55 years of marriage together and were blessed with four children.

After retiring from the military, Ray was able to spend more time on his hobbies. He enjoyed parachuting, wood working, shopping and he was an

excellent marksman. He was very fluent in four languages: English, German, French and Vietnamese. Ray was a long time member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 49 and the Francis J. Lynch VFW Post 3168 of Laquey. Most importantly, he treasured the times that he could spend with his family and friends.

Ray passed away Monday, March 11, 2013 in the General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri having attained the age of 80 years, 10 months and 15 days. He will be sadly missed by all those that knew and loved him.

Ray leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife: Hildegard Payton of the home; four children: Steven Payton (Gerlinda) of Ramstein, Germany, Bruce Payton (Samantha) of St. Robert, MO, Stephaine Williams (Kenneth) of Derby, KS and Robin Gallaher (George) of Waynesville, MO; thirteen grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 15, 2013 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with Rev. Danny Graves officiating. The song "Young Love" was played and serving as escorts were the United States Army. Serving as honorary escorts were Michael Williams and Shannon Payton.

Entombment with military honors followed in the Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery of Waynesville. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Ray Payton to the American Kidney Association or the American Diabetes Association and may be left at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery

Highway 17 South
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 14. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Service

MAR 15. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *SARA JONES sent a virtual gift in memory of MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton*



SARA JONES - October 12, 2013 at 04:36 PM



“ *Stephanie Payton Williams lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton*



Stephanie Payton Williams - March 16, 2013 at 08:33 PM

AN

“ Steve and family, Your friends from the 86 Logistics Readiness Squadron and Ramstein Air Force Base send our condolences and prayers for your loss. We thank him for his service to a grateful nation.

Anonymous - March 15, 2013 at 06:45 AM

HD

“ To the Payton Family,
Your loss is so great, Ray was my good friend and co-worker. He was a true man and soldier. My deepest sympathy to the family. We will always remember Ray.

*Harold/Karen Drossel
Henderson, NV.*

Harold / Karen Drossel - March 14, 2013 at 08:52 PM

RG

“ I remember walking with him and holding his finger , because his hand was to big for me to hold, I miss you so much Dad.



Robin Gallaher - March 13, 2013 at 10:20 PM

LW

“ We will miss you opa...

Shawn Payton



Leslie Ward - March 13, 2013 at 04:52 PM

LW

“ *Leslie Ward purchased the Celestial Love for the family of MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton.*



Leslie Ward - March 13, 2013 at 04:48 PM

LW

“ *For many memories of a wonderful man who loved us all, I never got to say Thank You...but I think he always knew. I love you Opa. One of the lessons you taught me is how to be strong and your gift to me was your loving heart.*



*Leslie Ward
Shawn Payton
Tabatha Pokakaa*


Leslie Ward - March 13, 2013 at 04:36 PM

DB

“ *I worked with Ray for a number of years in DOTD. I remember when I first met him I thought he was a gruff old guy behind the beard and long hair. But it turned out he was one of the nicest guys to work with. My deepest sympathies to the family.*

*Debbie Basford
Williston, Vermont*

Debbie Basford - March 13, 2013 at 07:16 AM


Richard
Colon

“ *Rest in peace...*



Richard Colon - March 12, 2013 at 04:56 PM

MW

“ *MSG)Ret) Delmar And Lyndia Williams lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton*



MSG)Ret) Delmar and Lyndia Williams - March 12, 2013 at 04:19 PM

NS

God Bless You Hildegard. Our thoughts are with you. From all the girls at The Eyeglass Center

Nancy Sutton - March 13, 2013 at 09:07 AM


Jennifer
Wilhelm

“ *I love you more than you'll ever know....miss you so much.*



Jennifer Wilhelm - March 12, 2013 at 12:26 PM

MS

“ *MARLIN STEVENS lit a candle in memory of
MSG (Ret) Ray Arthur Payton*



MARLIN sTEVENS - March 12, 2013 at 12:17 PM