



Ralph L. McDowell

July 31, 1933 - April 6, 2024

Saline, MI (formerly Angola, IN)

Ralph McDowell, age 90, of Saline, MI passed away Saturday, April 6, 2024. Ralph was born July 31, 1933 to Harold and Elsie McDowell in Chicago, IL. On September 3, 1955, Ralph married the love of his life, Margaret (Peggy) Goodale. In addition to Peggy, Ralph is survived by four children, Steve (Sue) McDowell of Ypsilanti, MI, David (Audrey) McDowell of Angola, IN, John (Tina) McDowell of Castle Rock, WA, and Katherine (Kevin) McGough of Arlington, MA. Also surviving are five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, four step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren. Ralph is also survived by his brother, James (Shirley) McDowell and his brother-in-law, Roy DeWitte and many nieces and nephews. Ralph was predeceased by his parents and sister, Louise DeWitte.

Ralph grew up in Chicago and received his B.S. degree from Purdue University in Electrical Engineering. During his college years, he was a member of the US Air Force ROTC program. Upon graduation, Ralph and Peggy joined the military life living at various Air Force bases as Ralph became a pilot flying a B-47 jet bomber.

After his military service, Ralph worked as a Planning Engineer for Illinois Bell Telephone Company in Chicago and with American Telephone and Telegraph

Company in New York City. In 1991, after 35 years of service, Ralph retired. He and Peggy moved to Angola, IN to enjoy lake living.

Ralph enjoyed being with family and friends. He relaxed on the lake with his sailboat and anyone who would float along with him. Ralph liked to travel and had visited all 50 states and several foreign countries. He and Peggy opened their home to two AFS exchange students whom he welcomed as daughters (Cristina Cobbe and Christine Wahle).

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service is being planned for the summer in Angola, IN. Memorials may be made to the Building Accessibility Fund at the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Angola (314 W Maumee St, Angola IN 46703) or to a charity of your choice in Ralph's name.