



Gary Lane Thomas

April 1, 1943 - December 26, 2023

Gary Lane Thomas, loving father, dear husband, and cherished flight instructor, passed from this earth on December 26th, 2023 after a battle with Alzheimer's. Gary was born on April 1st, 1943 in Kansas City, Missouri and graduated from Shawnee Mission North high school in 1961. He had an early interest in amateur radio and qualified for his license at the age of 14—call sign K0MGD. Gary earned his commercial pilot's license at age 18 and continued in the field of aviation as a flight instructor and aerial applicator for many years. Gary went on to work as an airline pilot for TWA in 1965 and served in the US Navy Reserve for six years as radio operator on a C118 air transport, visiting Vietnam for a short time in 1967. He married in 1968. Gary enjoyed traveling far and wide, visiting Hawaii, Vietnam, Japan, Italy, Switzerland, New Zealand, and Guatemala; and resided in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico at various times in addition to Kansas and his home state of Missouri. He was preceded in death by his father Marsden Nimrod Thomas and mother,

Greta Delene

(Spitzli) Thomas.

He is survived by his three siblings Theodore Thomas, Jan (Thomas) Woodell, and Ward

Thomas; his three children Peter Thomas, Katy (Thomas) Wilson, and Shelby Thomas; and

three grandchildren Henry Thomas, Claudia Wilson, and Stewart Wilson.

A celebration of life for Gary is planned for early Spring in 2024.