



Captain William Frederick Wiggins, USN (ret)

January 4, 1940 - July 6, 2021

Captain William Frederick Wiggins , USN(ret)

William “Fred” Wiggins, 81, passed away on July 6, 2021. He was born on January 4, 1940, in Mobile, Alabama.

Fred received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Science (Chemistry/Physics) from Livingston University in 1962. He then completed Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI, and was commissioned an Ensign in 1963. His military education included many and varied courses including Aviation Maintenance. He earned his Naval Flight Officer’s wings in 1964. He then began a series of assignments including Flight Officer in Airborne Early Warning Squadron Thirteen and was then honored by being selected as one of the original one hundred into the newly established Aeronautical Engineering Duty Officer Community (Aviation Maintenance). Fred was honored to serve as Maintenance Officer for the renowned Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels). This was one of his toughest and most memorable assignments

He then served as Chief of the Systems Engineering Division of the Navy’s Defense Logistics Agency (Contract Management Directorate). Among his military decorations were the Meritorious Service Medal (with gold star), Meritorious Unit Citation (with two stars), National Defense Medal and the Sea Service Medal(with star). In 1971 Fred was nominated as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America by his alma mater, Livingston University. He retired from the military in 1991, having served his country faithfully for

over 28 years, and moved from Burke, VA to Lakeland, FL. He met his wife, Dona, at an airshow (not surprising) in Rhode Island. They married May 7, 1977, in Front Royal, VA.

Fred was a history buff-especially the Civil War. He loved fishing and was a former member of Lakeland Bassmasters. He was a member of Masonic Lodge No. 356, Neptune Beach, FL, having been initiated into Berkley Lodge No. 167 A.F. & A.M., Chesapeake, VA in 1981. He was an active member of All Saints' Episcopal Church since 2000 and will be warmly remembered for many years as the organizer of the Lunch Bunch at the church.

Fred was predeceased by his parents, Ted and Irene Wiggins and sister Barbara and brother-in-law Robert McConnell. He is survived by his wife Dona and son Donald; Niece, Debbie (Henry) Jones; Great Nieces, Amber(Chris) Shirley, Amanda (Joe) Sanders and Jaelyn Huffman; Great-Great Nieces Kaileigh, Kennedy and Camdyn Shirley, Addison Spoma and Great-Great Nephew Ethan Farish.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2021 at 10 AM at All Saints' Episcopal Church. The service will be livestreamed on the church's Facebook page and website: www.allsaintsweb.org . Burial will be in Virginia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to All Saints' Episcopal Church Memorial Fund, 209 S. Iowa , Lakeland, FL 33801 or to Good Shepherd Hospice, 3450 Lakeland Hills Blvd, Lakeland,FL 33805

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL 17. 10:00 AM (ET)

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
202 S MASSACHUSETTS AVE
LAKELAND, FL

Tribute Wall



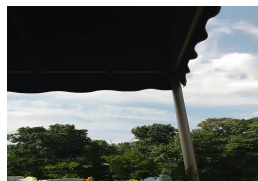
“ *Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Captain William Frederick Wiggins, USN (ret)*



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - July 15, 2021 at 02:30 PM

DW

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Dona Wiggins - July 27, 2021 at 05:42 PM

DW

Graveside Service for Capt. WF Wiggins in Front Royal, VA - July 22, 2021

Dona Wiggins - July 27, 2021 at 05:56 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Captain William Frederick Wiggins, USN (ret).*



July 19, 2021 at 11:39 AM

TT

“ Dear Dona and Donald, I’m so sorry for the loss of your beloved husband and father. I hope your many wonderful memories of Fred will bring y’all comfort. I feel so blessed to have known Fred and been his barber these last, almost 10 years. It was always a joy and a comfort to have him in my chair.
May God comfort and bless you always, Teena Thomas
PS To Fred: As our old mutual friend, Richard Brady always said, “Happy Day”! (((Hugs)))

Teena Thomas - July 18, 2021 at 03:51 PM

RM

“ Dona and Donald: It has been said that a true friend is someone who knows the song that's in your heart, and can sing it back to you even when you no longer remember the words. Fred was that kind of friend. Fair Winds and Following Seas, my friend. R.L. "Dick" Mosher, CAPT/USN (Ret)

Richard & Connie Mosher - July 17, 2021 at 11:07 AM

JR

“ I want to share this Blue Angel memory of a huge joke we played on Fred, as our maintenance officer parked his car right in front of our hanger, someone borrowed the big forklift and raised his car, and parked it on the Fat Albert ramp secured it down and raised the ramp.

When Fred couldn't locate his car he called the base police, they looked everywhere on the base, no car. The next morning the Marine with the Fat Albert key and the forklift driver removed his car and set it back in his parking space.

He had a big laugh when he found out

It was locked up in Fat Albert.

Rest in Peace my friend.



Jim and June Rice - July 14, 2021 at 07:23 PM

ST

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to your family. Tom Schamberger, CDR (Ret., USN) MO 90-91.

Schamberger Tom - July 14, 2021 at 06:36 PM

SP

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Steve Patchin - July 13, 2021 at 08:39 PM

MW

“Mack Prose, Lisa, Joe, Joshua, and Jacob Wilkinson purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Captain William Frederick Wiggins, USN (ret).



Mack Prose, Lisa, Joe, Joshua, and Jacob Wilkinson - July 13, 2021 at 05:30 PM

MP

“Dona and Donald, We were so saddened to learn of Fred’s passing. Fred was a special friend and a true shipmate. I have so many wonderful memories of the many hours we have spent together both serving in the Navy and enjoying times with our families. Fred had a great sense of humor and some cheerful words of encouragement to share. He could always be counted on to get the tough jobs done. It was an honor to have served our country with him and I treasure our lifelong friendship. Fred will be missed by so many. Take comfort that he has “slipped the surly bonds of earth” and has gone on to a better place. May he rest in peace

Mack Prose - July 12, 2021 at 06:59 PM

SP

Dona,
Mary Lee Duncan and Steve Patchin send our condolences for your loss. Captain Fred was a great man to work for in the Blue Angels. We had our times together in many places in the USA and the Far East in 1971. Steve Patchin

Steve Patchin - July 13, 2021 at 01:57 PM

GD

On behalf of all current and past Blue Angels, we salute "MO Wiggins" distinguished Navy career. While we pilots get all the attention, it's the maintenance personnel who keep those magnificent aircraft ready to fly safely every day. MO Wiggins contributed greatly to the pride all Blue Angels have that a Blue Angels airshow has never been cancelled because of maintenance problems. Dona, may time relieve your feeling of loss and leave wonderful memories of a life well lived.

*Sincerely,
CAPT George Dom, USN (Ret)
#1 1997-98
President, Blue Angels Association*

George Dom - July 14, 2021 at 05:31 PM

TT

Dear Dona and Donald, I'm so sorry for the loss of your beloved husband and father. I hope your many wonderful memories of Fred will bring y'all comfort. I feel so blessed to have known Fred and been his barber these last, almost 10 years. It was always a joy and a comfort to have him in my chair.

May God comfort and bless you always, Teena Thomas

Teena Thomas - July 18, 2021 at 03:25 PM