



Mr. Eric Paulson Jr

January 19, 1937 - January 4, 2024

On January 4, 2024, Carl Eric Paulson, Jr. departed this world to reunite with his cherished wife, Joan, in heaven.

Born in Erie, PA, Eric's journey began in Fairview, where he encountered the love of his life, Joan Rausch. Their profound connection endured for 64 years, culminating in Joan's passing in March 2023.

After graduating from Fairview High School, Eric enlisted in the US Army's Third Infantry Division, serving in Germany and Fort Knox, KY until 1961. His pride in military service endured, fostering close relationships with fellow servicemen, and active participation in numerous Third Infantry Division reunions. Following his military duty, Eric and Joan returned to Erie to raise a family.

Eric's upbringing near an airfield ignited a lifelong passion for aviation. While pursuing his dream of becoming a pilot, he worked for Sealtest, delivering milk, hauling cars with his uncle Russ Jenkins, and fueling planes at the airport. Most of his career was spent in the skies flying corporate aircraft for Erie Airways, Hammermill Paper, and International Paper. Over 30 years were spent in Erie and Fairview, where Eric a member of the Erie Maennerchor, Erie Elks Lodge, and the Fairview American Legion. He enjoyed summers of walleye fishing and falls at hunting camp with dear friends, along with participating in the Maennerchor bowling league.

A career move to Mobile, AL, courtesy of International Paper, brought a new chapter for Eric and his family. Upon retiring from IP, Eric and Joan embarked

on a joyous retirement, traveling the US in their RV, camping along the Gulf Coast, and spending time with friends, children, and grandchildren.

Eric leaves behind his children: Craig (Natalie) Paulson of Seneca, SC, Jesica Paulson of Chicago, IL, grandsons Codey (Lindsey) Paulson of Southside, AL, Troy Paulson of Mobile, AL, Conner Paulson of Southside, AL, and great-grandson Corbyn Paulson of Southside, AL. He is also survived by his siblings: Joyce (Tom) River, Carolyn Cooper, Donald (Janie) Paulson, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and lifelong friends.

Preceding him in death were his beloved wife, Joan (Rausch) Paulson, his parents, Florence and Eric Paulson, his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Donald and Jacqueline (Rausch) Paulson, and his brother-in-law, Gary Cooper.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Fairview American Legion Post 742, the Society of the Third Infantry Division, or a US Veterans Charity of your choice, honoring Eric's commitment to community and military service.

Tribute Wall

GW

“ Just found out about Eric’s passing. He graduated with my husband from Fairview. High School. Growing up together in town. I was a friend also beginning when I worked at a restaurant next to the Fairview airport at that time managed by the Kudlaks. He and Joan were the perfect couple. Sympathy to their family.
Donna and Gary Wilkins

Gary and Donna Wilkins - May 27, 2024 at 11:59 AM

DK

“ Dear Jesica, Craig and the Paulson family.
Our deepest sympathy and our prayers are with you. I will always have fond memories of Eric and Joan while at Erie Airways. I had an opportunity to fly with Eric and see him and Joan at the Maennerchor when Eric was bowling. They have left a great legacy, and I was honored to know them. It is very difficult to see those we love go from us, but they go to the place we all are trying to get to. Be assured that we will keep Eric and your family in our prayers.
Dennis & Lynn Kudlak

Dennis Kudlak - January 12, 2024 at 12:55 PM