

## **Wayne Everett Steward | 1937-2015**

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Tags: Paradise



Wayne Everett Steward

Wayne Everett Steward, 78, of Paradise died Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015, in Plano, where he was recuperating after a stroke.

Funeral was Dec. 8 at Jones Family Funeral Home in Bridgeport with Marc Moore officiating. Burial is pending at DFW National Cemetery.

Wayne was born in 1937 in Poplar Bluff, Mo., to Everett Leo and Muriel Ruth Chronister Steward. He grew up on a dairy farm and later attended Southeast Missouri State University. Wayne served as a Navy pilot. He completed his flight training in Pensacola, where he was a T-28 flight instructor. Wayne flew the A4E for the remainder of his active duty, which included 131 combat missions in Vietnam. He served aboard the USS Oriskany and was a member of the Ghost Riders Attack Squadron 164.

Wayne received the Air Medal and a Commendation of Valor for his service in Vietnam. He achieved the rank of lieutenant.

After leaving the service, Wayne joined American Airlines in 1966. He spent his first three years based in L.A., before transferring to DFW. Wayne purchased a ranch in Paradise in 1975 and spent the remainder of his life there. He retired from American Airlines in 1997 after 31 years as a captain.

Wayne is survived by his wife of 36 years, Jo Beth Steward of Paradise; daughter Sarah Steward and husband, Duane Bever, of Dallas; sister Carolyn Lance of Poplar Bluff; brother Ed Steward and wife, Nina, of Poplar Bluff; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Grace Fellowship Church Children's Ministry, 118 Honeysuckle, Paradise, TX 76074 or to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo, TX 79174-0001.