



## Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers

March 28, 1936 - January 19, 2018

Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers, 81, of Gibbon, NE, died on Friday, January 19, 2018 at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 am Thursday, January 25, 2018 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home. The Rev. Barbara Spangler will officiate. Interment will be at Riverside Cemetery at 1:00 pm Thursday. Visitation will be from 5-7 pm Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation. Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com).

Clifford Shiers was born March 28, 1936 in Gibbon, Nebraska; the second eldest of seven children to Floyd and Margaret (Bundy) Shiers. The family moved to Kearney in 1944. Clifford graduated from Kearney High School in 1953 and entered college that fall but a serious car accident kept him from continuing his education. After recovering from the accident, he worked for Diamond Engineering before entering the service in 1958. After completing aviation cadet school, he was promoted to the rank of 2nd LT. and was assigned to Randolph Air Force as a navigator aboard KC-97 refueling tankers. In 1959 he was assigned to the 320th Air Refueling Squadron at March AFB. He flew on missions to the Pacific, Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Guam, Marianna Islands, Alaska and numerous other countries. On two occasions he

flew on missions to Kearney, Nebraska to provide tactical aircraft support of local selected recovery units. After completing training for duty aboard KC-135 jet refueling tankers he flew missions to England, Germany and Spain. During his time in the Air Force Clifford, flew many combat missions over Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and the DMZ, some of them aboard an AC-130 gunship. In 1973 he was assigned with the 2nd Airborne Command Control Squadron stationed at Offutt AFB. Many of the missions from Offutt were classified and took him to every part of the globe including Alaska, England, Japan, Okinawa, Greece, Germany and Spain. After 22 years in the Air Force Clifford retired in 1980 having obtained the rank of Major. Not counting the combat sorties, he flew over Southeast Asia, Clifford flew 222 operational reconnaissance missions and amassed 10,500 hours of flight time. Clifford was awarded the Air Medal, Joint Services Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, The Combat Readiness Medal, the National Defense Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Force Longevity Service Award, the Air Force Small Arms Expert Award and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross.

Clifford continued his flying career by joining E-Systems, Inc. at Greenville, Texas. At E-Systems he participated in all facets of the aviation industry including designing systems, modifying aircraft and then conducting test flights to prepare the planes for delivery to the Air Force and other customers. Clifford retired from E-Systems in 1998 after 40 years of flying, amassing almost 15,000 hours in the air. Clifford then moved to Gibbon to enjoy retirement.

He enjoyed restoring antique automobiles, hunting, fishing and playing cards at the Kearney senior center. Clifford was a member of the Elks, American Legion, antique auto club and Ducks Unlimited.

Clifford is survived by brothers Ronald (Leah) of Terra Bella, CA; Arthur of Lincoln and Loren(Joyce) of Ames, IA; ten nieces and nephews and many family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Edith Brill and Marilyn Kraft, brother Alvin, brothers-in-law Francis Brill and Charles Kraft, sister-in-law Marilyn Shiers and three nieces.

# Cemetery Details

## Riverside Cemetery

45400 85th Road  
Gibbon, NE

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **24**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations  
4115 Ave N  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 234-3500  
info@osrfh.com  
<https://www.osrfh.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN **25**. 10:30 AM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations  
4115 Ave N  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 234-3500  
info@osrfh.com  
<https://www.osrfh.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ Greenville TX purchased the Strength & Solace S pray for the family of Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers.



Greenville TX - January 24, 2018 at 02:39 PM



“ Love from Frank & Joyce Early purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers.



Love from Frank & Joyce Early - January 24, 2018 at 12:28 PM



“ Kimberly, Brad, Cole and Cheyenne purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers.



Kimberly, Brad, Cole and Cheyenne - January 23, 2018 at 07:03 PM

RK

“ *Buck was a classmate, friend, and fellow Air Force member involved in the aviation field. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Family and he will be missed by all. Randy Krumback*

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**Randy Krumback** - January 23, 2018 at 06:21 PM

RR

“ *Buck was a good man! He will be missed at our auctions! My thoughts and prayers are with his family!*

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**Rusty Rhynalds** - January 23, 2018 at 02:52 PM

UB

“ *Uncle Bucky's Nephew Paul and wife Carol Brill purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers.*



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**Uncle Bucky's Nephew Paul and wife Carol Brill** - January 23, 2018 at 02:45 PM

GV

“ Hi Shiers Family

*I remember, Bucky's -- "Harley" if I am correct it was the Classic "74"!!!!*

*Also his Friends "Indian" .....*

*There were times, when they were working on the Big Grain Elevator near Highway 44 & 6.....*

*On rain days they would leave the "bikes" at the house in North Kearney....*

*It was always too much "Temptations" for the Twins and me to just let bikes set !!!....*

*Those "Iron Horses" were tough on us.....*

*BUT NOT AS BAD AS WHEN THEY --- (BUCKY & HIS FRIEND) --- WOULD FIGURE OUT THAT WE WERE "MESSING WITH THE BIKES", THEY WOULD WORK US OVER --- PRETTY BAD!!!!*

*BUT IT WAS A GREAT TIME TO KNOW ALL YOU KIDS..*

*GARY L. VOSS*

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**G L VOSS** - January 22, 2018 at 08:57 PM

JE

“ I had the honor to know Cliff or as we called him Buckey for many years. While in Greenville Tx we were neighbors, fellow aviators, hunters , and most of all great friends. He was truly a great force in global navigation and teaching young men and women how to circumnavigate the world. I can honestly say that he will be remembered by many. Bucky you are probably looking down and laughing at some of the things we did with Loose. Most folks will never circle the globe. ...we did it in 4 mins. RIP my friend. Box Elder /USAF retired

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**john elder** - January 22, 2018 at 04:15 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers.



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January 22, 2018 at 11:39 AM

MG

“ With sincer sympathy and condolences to the family of Buck. He was a very good friend, kind and generous, and helping neighbor. He will be missed by all that knew him. I am very sorry to hear of his passing....R.I.P. Bucky.....Brandt Godberson and family

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**M. Brandt Godberson** - January 22, 2018 at 03:03 AM

CC

“ *Central Platte Ducks Unlimited Committee purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Clifford F. "Buck" Shiers.*



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**Central Platte Ducks Unlimited Committee** - January 21, 2018  
at 01:24 PM