

Paul Eugene Caine

January 3, 1935 - February 4, 2023

Paul Caine passed away peacefully at home in San Diego on February 4, 2023. Nancy, Paul's wife of 65 years, was with him. Paul's grace and love for Nancy, his family and friends will be sorely missed.

Born to Ira Michael and Mabel Caine on January 3, 1935, in Roundup, Montana and raised in Miles City, Montana, Paul was the son of a hardworking Milwaukee Railroad family.

Paul and Nancy Schilling were married in 1957 after both graduated from the University of Montana (Missoula), where Paul was a member of the baseball team. Paul was a Trustee and received the prestigious University of Montana Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2007.

Nancy and Paul were quite the team, and they had two sons, Brian, born in 1958, and Shawn, in 1962. As a military family, they met and faced the challenges of multiple deployments, successfully rearing their boys into adulthood. Paul loved the United States and his military service. He served in the Navy for over 24 years as a Naval Helicopter Pilot, retiring in 1980 as a Captain. Through 7 "on the book" tours to Vietnam via WESTPAC,



Paul logged over 80 combat missions and was credited with 13 downed U.S. Pilot rescues. Paul was the Chief Pilot for the Commander of the 7th Fleet and participated in the helicopter recovery operations of Apollo 4. For Paul's selfless commitment to Duty and Valor during multiple deployments in a combat zone, he, was the honored recipient of Meritorious Service Medal (two Awards), four Air-Medals for heroism, the Navy Achievement Medal with "V" Device (Valor), and Combat Action Medal. He served in units which were recipients of many more Citations and Medals. Paul commanded Helicopter Squadron 8 and was Commander of Air Group 80.

Upon retiring from the military, Paul ventured into commercial real estate brokerage in downtown San Diego, Mexico, Latin America,

and South America. He retired in 2008.

The best times in Paul's life were with his wife Nancy as they raised their boys, traveled together, spent time with family in Montana and San Diego.

Paul is survived by his wife Nancy, son Brian and fiancé Christina; son Shawn and wife Maureen; and his grandson Beckett. Paul is survived by his nephews and nieces Mike and Patty Cotter from Helena, Montana, Pat and Jill Caine, Kevin and Lynette Caine from Bozeman, Montana, niece Margaret Nicol Contreras from San Diego, nephew Curtis Cox and niece Kimberly Cox from Denver, Colorado, and niece Tina Cox from Virginia Beach, Virginia. He has multiple great nieces and great nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, and nieces Michele Cotter Tuchscherer, Mary Cotter, and nephew Rodney Nicol.

Paul will be sorely missed, but his spirit will forever shine. Donations are suggested to the George G. Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers and or the University of Montana Foundation, P.O. Box 7159, Missoula, Montana 59807.