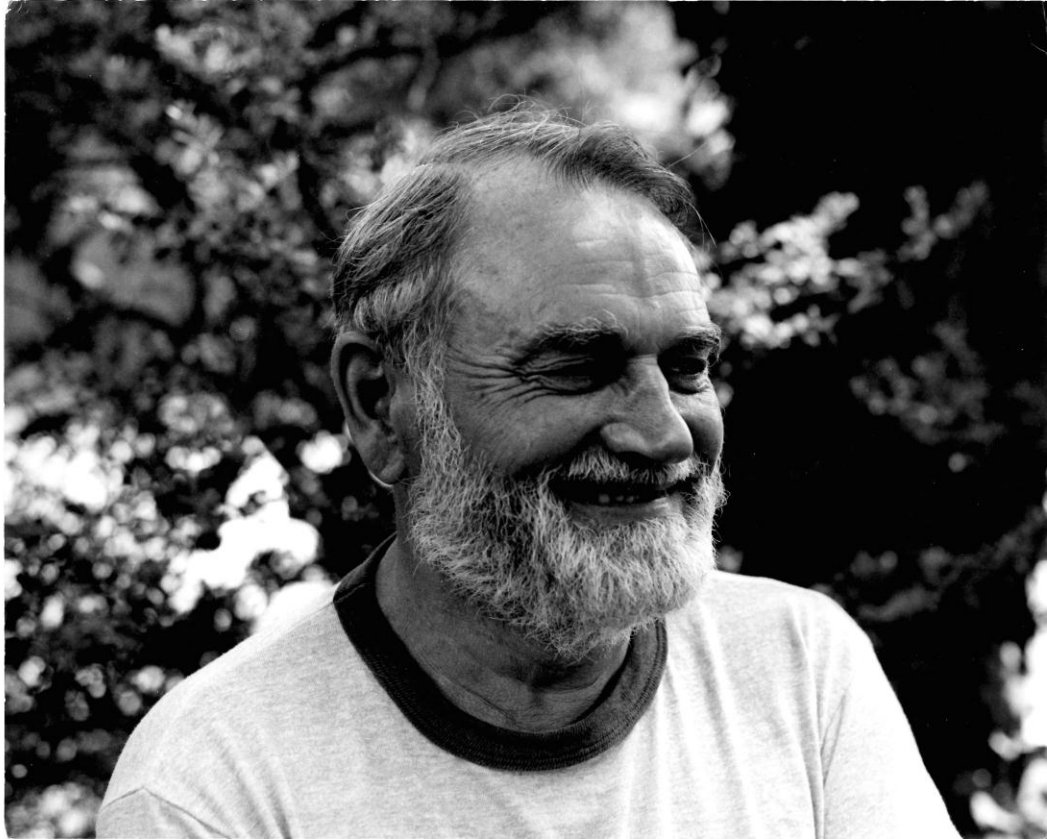


Edward Arthur Carpenter Obituary



Edward Arthur “Bud” CARPENTER 1918 – 2015

Bud Carpenter passed away after a protracted illness on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at his son’s home in El Lago, TX.

During his 97 years he was liked or loved by the overwhelming majority of those with whom he came in contact.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut to Leroy Albert “Roy” Carpenter and Eula Thankful “Lulu” (Torrey) Carpenter. He was the second of four children, and the only boy.

He graduated from Brattleboro (VT) High School and then apprenticed to a master machinist at the Millers Falls Tool Company, and subsequently went to work at several precision manufacturing companies in New England.

He married his first wife, Virginia Guy Campbell, and fathered his first son, Peter, before being drafted into the Army. An old skiing injury became inflamed during basic training, and thus he was assigned to guarding German POWs in Louisiana.

While in the Army, the government decided his machinist skills would be better served working for NACA at Langley AFB in Virginia, so the family moved there.

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Longing for the ski slopes of his youth, he decided to move to Vermont where his first daughter, Leslie, was born. The harsh Vermont winters drove them to move back to Virginia again after a couple of years. Two daughters, Patty and Wendy, were born to them there.

Seeing opportunities at Arnold Engineering Development Center, he moved the family to Tullahoma, TN where Bud and Ginny's final child, Dicky, was born.

Dad became enthused with the space program, and decided to return to the newly formed NASA in Tidewater Virginia. A year later NASA moved its manned program to Texas, and Bud became part of the Landing and Recovery Division for which he had great love of the work and its people.

Following the end of the Apollo program, he made his way to the Dryden, CA NASA facility to complete his NASA career. He was accompanied by his second wife, Cecelia, to their home in Rosamond.

Following his retirement from NASA Bud moved back to Texas to be nearer to his children and growing number of grandchildren. On a trip to check out his property in Tullahoma, he met his future wife, Vera Byrom. After they were married he moved back to Tennessee to be with her. Vera had four children of her own – Delilah Sharp, Keith, Michael and Danny – who became part of the blended family.

After Vera passed following a long illness, Bud shared his time between Tullahoma and Kemah, spending his winters in Texas, and the milder months in Tennessee.

Other than the children mentioned above, he is also survived by 15 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

He is sorely missed by his family, relatives, and friends.

Two memorial services will be held:

(1) Saturday, 15 August 2015, at 4 PM Central
Lighthouse Fellowship of Friends
925 Third Ave., League City, TX 77573

(2) Saturday, 05 September 2015, at 2 PM Central
Wesley Heights Methodist Church
2101 E. Lincoln St., Tullahoma, TN 37388

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the American Heart Association (www.heart.org) or the American Lung Association (www.lung.org). Thank you.