



## Ralph L. Jessup

May 17, 1925 - October 5, 2017

Ralph L. Jessup, age 92 of Bloomington passed away Thursday October 5, 2017 at the Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospital. He was born in 1925 on May the 17th to Leland Stanford Jessup and Mary Brown Jessup.

Ralph graduated from Westfield High School in in 1943 and then married Nellie Sue Wood, to whom he was married 72 years.

He started his professional career first as a farmer in central Indiana while also serving in the Indiana National Guard. His interest in aviation soon brought him to fulfilling his dream of becoming a pilot. For 10 years he piloted private and corporate aircraft and eventually piloted Indiana University's fleet of aircraft for 20 years.

Ralph was active with the Indiana Flying Farmers, Westfield Masonic Lodge and Crossroads United Methodist Church in Bloomington. He was also a Patron with the Mission Aviation Fellowship. He is a past member of the Gray Friends Church of Noblesville, Westfield Friends Church, and the Mooresville Friends Church.

He was a uniquely skilled craftsman working with stained glass. After retiring from piloting he created numerous pieces over the years for friends and family alike. From lampshades, to night lights, to the beautiful windows in his church,

Crossroads United Methodist Church, he both excelled and thoroughly enjoyed his craft.

Ralph leaves behind his wife of 72 years Nellie Sue Wood, daughter Melinda Hine and husband Herb, grandchildren Dale Hine and wife Robin, Susan Haynes and husband Steve, Angela Stoner and husband Robert, and Jennifer Payne and husband Phoenix. Seven great grandchildren also survive.

He was predeceased by his parents, siblings Louise Jessup Sullivan, Ruthanna Jessup Polhemus, and son Randolph Jessup.

Funeral services for Ralph will be held Tuesday morning at 11:00AM at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37. Visitation will be held Monday evening from 5PM to 7PM at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory.

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **9**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

## Service

OCT **10**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

# Tribute Wall

BR

“ *Just learned of Ralph's death today. our prayers are with Sue, Melinda and Heb and their family. Many fun memories. Beverly and Stan Rader*



**beverly rader** - October 17, 2017 at 06:13 PM

CJ

*I just found out myself that Ralph died a couple of years ago. Sue and he were very nice to me like the Rader family was while I attended Indiana University until 1991.*

**Chris Jones** - August 12, 2019 at 07:15 PM

MR

“ *So sorry for your loss. I remember how impressed I was when he sang like Al Jolson at the original Westfield High School Auditorium. And how he loved telling that story about me & my first doll. I that story said a lot about his charm and understanding!*

**Mary Sue Riggs** - October 09, 2017 at 09:55 AM

JH

*Our condolences to the Jessup Family. Ralph was an avid advocate of Mission Aviation Fellowship and our family in particular over the past 40 years. He faithfully represented us and our aviation ministry...such a loving and faithful supporter! Ralph loved the Lord and he loved flying. He has made his "final flight", arriving at his destination with his Heavenly Father. Our loss and Heaven's gain!*  
**JOHN & NANCY HOOK (MAF)**

**John & Nancy Hook** - October 10, 2017 at 12:51 AM

CJ

*"V1" "Rotate" to Heaven 2017. RIP Ralph.*

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**Chris Jones** - August 12, 2019 at 07:17 PM

HB

“ *I was a Bell Trace neighbor, often sharing conversation at dinner, usually focused on his flying for IU basketball with Coach Knight. I knew him as a dedicated husband, a caring father, a dedicated man to his church, and a quite good artisan.*

*Harmon Baldwin  
Richmond, VA*

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**Harmon Baldwin** - October 08, 2017 at 04:34 PM

CJ

*I was Ralph's Grand Cousin as he was my Grandfather Monte Jones' cousin of Westfield Indiana.*

*I was proud of this family member as I ended up going to graduate school at Indiana University working with the men's basketball team from 1989 to 1991.*

*I was pleased when Ralph came up to Assembly Hall to visit me in October, 1991 after he had retired as pilot for the University.*

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**Chris Jones** - August 12, 2019 at 07:19 PM

JF

“ *I treasure the years spent as Ralph and Sue's neighbor in Meadow Woods. Ralph was always so kind and helpful; a true gentleman. I still treasure a piece of stained glass Ralph made for me. My condolences to Sue and the rest of Ralph's family.*

*Jenny Fisher*

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**Jenny Fisher** - October 08, 2017 at 03:16 PM

JS

“ When I was about nine years old I got to take my very first airplane ride..Uncle Ralph and I met in a hay field with his WWII surplus, T3, tail dragging, trainer. What an adventure!

As the radial engine pattered to life, I became a bit nervous. I don't recall much about the flight except the takeoff, it was rough, loud and louder. As we moved through the hay field Ralph had to move the plane from side to side in order to see where he was going. I was terrified of a cable at the end of field, I didn't know if we would clear it or not.

However, as we lifted off the noise and bouncing was replaced by the very thrill of being air born. We must have cleared the cable because I didn't see it anymore.

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**Jim Stuart** - October 08, 2017 at 09:48 AM

JS

“ 5 files added to the album New Album Name



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**Jim Stuart** - October 08, 2017 at 08:17 AM



*These are fantastic! Thank you for showing Grandad so young and lively!*

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**Jennifer Payne** - October 08, 2017 at 08:51 PM

JS

“ *Heaven gained a true gentleman. A man from a time we wish was the present, A non-assuming, humble, gentlemen to the truest sense of that word. Just the nicest down to earth Pilots, one could ever know. Gods speed my friend*

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**John Stackhouse** - October 07, 2017 at 10:48 PM

JS

“ *2 files added to the album Ralph & sue's Ring bearer*



**James Stuart** - October 07, 2017 at 07:25 PM