



Date Of Birth : 01 Jul, 1943

Date Of Death : 06 Aug, 2015

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William P. Cruse

City : Colorado Springs

State : Colorado

Dr. William ("Bill") Peter Cruse, 72, passed over on Thursday, August 6, 2015 at his home in Colorado Springs in the loving presence of family. Bill was born to William John Cruse and Gladys (Staisny) Cruse on July 1, 1943 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the second of six children. He graduated from Forest Lake HS in 1961, attended St. Johns University in Collegeville, MN for two years and then graduated from the University of Minnesota Dental School in 1967.

Bill met his beautiful bride and wife of 49 years, Glenda Rae Anderson, while in dental school. They were married in 1966 in an intimate ceremony in St. Paul, MN.

Immediately after graduating from dental school Bill joined the U.S. Army Dental Corps and volunteered for duty as a Special Forces dentist. Young Captain Cruse's first assignment was a tour of duty in the Republic of Vietnam as a forward deployed dental surgeon. After returning home his career as a dental officer spanned another 29 years with assignments in Panama, Texas, North Carolina, England (as a liaison to the British Army), Kansas, Alabama, Maryland, Pennsylvania, South Korea, and Germany. Bill was selected for and attended Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. He served as commander of dental activities in Korea (18th Medical Command), U.S. Army Europe (7th Army) and the Great Plains Regional Dental Command.

After thirty years of honorable service to our nation, he retired from the Army and moved to Tucson, AZ where he was able to help care for his parents. He also finished a Masters in Business Administration and Human Resource Management and began teaching at local community colleges. In 2011 Bill and Glenda made their 17th and final move together to Colorado Springs.

Bill somehow found time to enjoy handball, biking, running, collecting coins, serving numerous charities and joining the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife Glenda, son Bill (Susie) Cruse, daughter Heidi (Rick) Maze, daughter Gretchen Cruse; grandchildren Forrest and Will Cruse, Tyler Maze, Hunter Crump; brother Richard Cruse, sisters Carol Bentley, Mary Mulvania, Lora Saunders and Pam Wollam ; and many other loving nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Bill Cruse will be held at 3:30pm, Friday, August 14, 2015 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Colorado Springs with Fr. Larry S officiating. Burial will take place at a later date at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to St. Patrick's Catholic Church Knights of Columbus or the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.