



David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr.

August 4, 1937 - October 14, 2025

David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr., age 88, passed away peacefully on October 14, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Born on August 4, 1937, in Hannibal, Missouri, David moved with his family to the Pleasant View community in Arkansas during his early childhood. He graduated from Pleasant View High School in 1955 and proudly served in the United States Air Force for four years.

Following his military service, David relocated to Huntsville, Alabama, where he began a distinguished career in aerospace engineering. He worked for the U.S. Space and Rocket Center at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center as an engineer and Test Conductor for General Electric SDF Operations. His contributions to the Mercury Space Program and the Apollo 13 mission were significant, and he was honored with a special invitation to the Apollo 17 launch in recognition of his Manned Flight Awareness contributions.

David's career with General Electric took him across the country—from Huntsville to Wilmington, Delaware, then Burlington, Iowa, and finally back to Arkansas in 1976. In Fort Smith, he continued his work as a Quality Control Engineer for General Electric, Trane, and American Standard, dedicating over 30 years to the field.

After retiring, David and his wife, Teresa, built their home near his family's

original homestead in Pleasant View. Their home included a workshop where you could often find David creating one of a kind wooden works of art. He treasured time spent with his siblings, children, grandchildren, extended family, and lifelong friends. Known affectionately as "Smiley," David was admired for his unwavering devotion to his loved ones, strong work ethic, and his joyful appreciation for life.

David was preceded in death by his parents, Eleanor and David "Hansel" McCain Sr. (Pleasant View), and his brothers, Larry and Gordon McCain (Pleasant View).

He is survived by his beloved wife, Teresa; his sister, Kay Love of Farmington, AR, his sister-in-law, Malynda McCain, his children: David McCain (Jill) of Chattanooga, TN and Deanna Hildebrand (Jeff) of Little Rock, AR; stepchildren: Beth Blansit of Valley Head, AL and Joey Solomon (Penny) of Wichita, KS; grandchildren: Eleanor (Mark), Tess (Connor), Tripp (Annie), Jake, Jordan, Thomas (Amber), Paul (Rochelle), Casey, Kelli, and Rhiannon (Alan); 10 great-grandchildren, and 1 great great-grandchild.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, October 18, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM at Shaffer Funeral Home in Ozark, with a graveside service immediately following at Hight Cemetery, Sandy Branch Road in Mulberry, Arkansas.

Serving as pallbearers will be David McCain III, Jeff Hildebrand, Tripp James, Jake James, Richie Hightower, Samuel McCain, and Jonathan McCain.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Chris McCain and Gordon "Mack" McCain.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Mercy Health Foundation P.O. Box 17000, 2700 South 74th Street, Ft. Smith, AR 72903.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks to the ICU staff at Mercy Hospital in Ft. Smith for the compassionate and loving care they provided for David.

To leave an online memorial visit www.shafferfuneralhomeweb.com

Cemetery Details

Hight Cemetery

Sandy Branch Road
Mulberry, AR 72947

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 18. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home
2315 West Commercial Street
PO Box 680
Ozark, AR 72949
(479) 667-4147
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

Graveside at Hight Cemetery immediately after @12pm

Graveside Service

OCT 18. 12:00 PM (CT)

Hight Cemetery
Sandy Branch Road
Mulberry, AR 72947

Tribute Wall

BV

“ 1 file added to the album Slideshow



Byron Lasater V - October 30, 2025 at 02:37 PM

LW

“ Deanna and family, I'm so sadden about your Dad. We know the hurt of losing husband & Dad. Our. Hearts and prayers are going out to you. I pray you have peace. Love, Lois Wade



Lois Wade - October 17, 2025 at 02:54 PM

CM

“ Cristy B., Mike C., & Kathy M. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..



Cristy B., Mike C., & Kathy M. - October 17, 2025 at 01:33 PM

FR

“ Feral Rock purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..



Feral Rock - October 17, 2025 at 01:27 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..



October 17, 2025 at 11:47 AM



“ *Lucie & Brooks Leach* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..

Lucie & Brooks Leach - October 17, 2025 at 10:59 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..



October 17, 2025 at 10:59 AM



“ *Mark and Donna Holmes* purchased the *Medium Dish Garden* for the family of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..



Mark and Donna Holmes - October 16, 2025 at 05:51 PM

SH

“ One of a kind! DH will be missed by so many. Sending love and prayers to his entire family

Susan Holman - October 16, 2025 at 04:12 PM

LB

“ Love, The Moss Bunch purchased the Beautiful i
n Blue for the family of David Hansel "D.H."
McCain Jr..



Love, The Moss Bunch - October 16, 2025 at 02:45 PM

LB

“ Love, The Moss Bunch planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Hansel "D.H." McCain Jr..

Love, The Moss Bunch - October 16, 2025 at 02:45 PM



“ What a beautiful legacy left by a wonderful man. We are praying for God's peace for the McCain family. Eternal rest grant unto him, Oh Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Julie Wewers - October 16, 2025 at 01:20 PM