



## Howard Nash

August 1, 1931 - July 5, 2012

Howard Gessner Nash, Major, United States Air Force Retired, died at his home in St. Michaels, MD, on July 5, 2012. He was surrounded by his loving family. He was born on August 1, 1931, and was 80 years old. He was the son of the late Charles Edgar Nash and Elizabeth Jane Gessner Nash.

During his early years, he was active in the family's antique business; Nash Antiques in Hartsville, PA, (Bucks Co.). Upon graduation from high school, he attended the National Agriculture College in Boylestown, PA (now the Delaware Valley College of Arts and Science). He graduated in 1953, having earned a B.S. Degree in Ornamental Horticulture.

Upon graduation from college, Howard entered the United States Air Force Cadet Navigation Program and was assigned to Ellington Air Force Base in Houston, TX.

On March 24, 1956, he married Melba Doris Hargrove, who was a nursing student at the University of Houston. They recently celebrated 56 years of marriage, with their daughters, Deborah Lynne Nash Bridges and Mary Kathleen Nash Camper and their families.

During his military career, Major Nash flew 267 combat missions during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak

leaf clusters and the Air Metal with 18 leaf clusters.

After retirement from the Air Force, in November 1973, he and his family returned to their home, Swan Cove Farm, in St. Michaels. He was then employed by Murdoch Gardens, and later operated "Personalized Transportation." He also worked with his daughter in her florist business, Swan Cove Flower

He was a master craftsman, having restored their Victorian home and many beautiful pieces of furniture. He also enjoyed boating and the many pleasures of life along the Chesapeake Bay. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Easton and the Retired Officers Association.

Major Nash is survived by his wife, Melba, and their daughters Deborah Bridges (Edward) and Mary Kathleen Camper; his six grandchildren, Eric Leighton Bridges (Kerry Coleen), and their daughter Abigail and son Grady; Marc Bolan Bridges (Jennifer) and their children, Julie and William, Mitchell Adam Camper, Jared Samuel Camper, Caroline Faith Camper, and Meredith Kathleen Camper; a tiny infant grandson, James Lester Camper, who is deceased; and a tiny great-grandson, Eric Leighton Bridges, Jr., who is also deceased.

Also surviving are his sisters, Dr. Julia Nash Murphy of Annville, PA, and Dr. Florence Nash Lednum (Wendell) of Cordova, MD. His brother, John Smiley Nash is deceased. He leaves many nieces and nephews, and a special cousin Mary Elizabeth Ewer "Muff" Pettinos of Wilmington, OH.

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, July 12, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A, in Easton. Friends may call one hour prior to the service. Burial will take place in Oxford Cemetery.

Howard was a wonderful son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and uncle. He will be greatly missed.

In memory of Howard, donations may be made to Talbot Hospice Foundation, 586 Cynwood Drive, Easton, MD 21601.

# Cemetery Details

## Oxford Cemetery

Oxford, MD

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 12. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Easton Location  
200 South Harrison Street  
Easton, MD 21601  
(410) 822-3131  
info@fhfuneralhome.com

## Service

JUL 12. 10:30 AM (ET)

Easton Location  
200 South Harrison Street  
Easton, MD 21601  
(410) 822-3131  
info@fhfuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Howard Nash*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Howard Nash*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Howard Nash*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Patti Willis lit a candle in memory of Howard Nash*



**Patti Willis** - July 11, 2012 at 02:26 PM



*Melba, Debbie, Mary and family: Craig and I are sorry for your loss.*

**Patti Willis** - July 11, 2012 at 02:27 PM



*Thanks so much Patti for your love and support through this.*

**Deborah Bridges** - July 22, 2012 at 11:27 AM

SK

“ Sue Howeth Knight lit a candle in memory of Howard Nash



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**sue howeth knight** - July 08, 2012 at 01:14 PM

SK

*My thoughts and prayers are with Melba, Debbie, Mary and the family.*

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**sue howeth knight** - July 08, 2012 at 01:16 PM

TA

*So great this man meant so much to his family. He will surely be missed. Praying for you guys.*

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**Theresa Anders** - July 11, 2012 at 01:32 PM