

Captain Hugh "Buddy" Gammon Jr., passed away a few days before Christmas 2022. Buddy lived a life most of us can only dream about. A small-town boy from Rome Georgia (high school state champion wrestler) who earned a congressional nomination to the Air Force Academy and graduated in 1973 [CS-31].

He went on to fly the C-141 for the Air Force in Vietnam. He earned a Parachutist Badge and jumped out of hundreds of planes, always wanting to be amongst the clouds. Buddy was awarded the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. After the service to his Country, Buddy became a commercial pilot for Air Florida, Piedmont, US Airways and American Airlines where he proudly helped thousands of families get safely to their destination. He was an international pilot, rode a Harley, and his adventures were often sprinkled with misadventures and a lot of humor. He traveled to and scuba dived ever corner of the world. He owned a dive shop in the Florida Keys and organized the Dive Club at U.S. Airways.

Anyone who knew Buddy will recall his infectious laugh, wit, and extraordinary zeal for life. His exploits were often like they could be from the pages of an adventure novel. Wherever he went people were attracted to his affable personality. He was deeply devoted to his family and fiercely loyal to his friends. There are very few like him and we will miss him while remembering him often. His family knows he will be a guardian angel watching over his only Daughter, Sarah Webner, and his Grandson, Logan Webner. His Mom, Dad, and Sister Frankie were there to meet him in heaven. He also leaves behind his beloved Sisters, Marilyn Allison and Joy Rickman. Until we see you again, Raven 7.