

## **Colonel Leonard "Len" Jarman, USAF Ret Obituary**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of retired Colonel Leonard L. Jarman. Len fought a lengthy courageous battle with cancer. He was surrounded by his wife Tracy and their children, Brian and Nicole, at the time of his death on Saturday, February 3rd, 2024. Len was 72 years old.

Len was born on July 3rd, 1951 to Kenneth and Mary Jarman in Litchfield, IL. His parents later moved to New Douglas, IL; a small farming community just an hour outside of St. Louis where he worked while going to school. He graduated from Livingston High School as the Valedictorian of his class in 1969. Because of his high school achievements, he was offered a scholarship to both the Coast Guard Academy and the Air Force Academy. He chose the latter. After graduation from the Air Force Academy, he fulfilled his dream of becoming a pilot when he attended and graduated from Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) and was assigned to fly the KC-135 Stratotanker (a modified Boeing B-707). He was then assigned as an Air Force Instructor Pilot flying the T-37 Primary Jet Trainer at Williams AFB, AZ. He was so successful there that he was selected to go to Air Training Command (ATC) Headquarters at Randolph AFB, TX to be one of the Headquarters Standardization and Evaluation Pilots and the Command's Chief Spin Pilot.

It was at Randolph where Tracy met the young Captain and they began their lifelong journey. Len took his aviation career to new heights with Tracy by his side. He was then assigned to the Pentagon where Len made Major and authored the AF Regulation 60-1 that basically governed the standardization of all flying in the Air Force. Major Jarman then went to Air Command and Staff College in Montgomery where he made the rank of Lt Col and was assigned as a T-38 Instructor Pilot at Laughlin AFB, TX. Again, his expertise, leadership, and exceptional flying ability led him to Vance AFB, OK as the T-38 Squadron Commander.

After his Command position at Vance, Len was assigned back to the Pentagon where he made Full Colonel. He then took Tracy back to where they met at Randolph AFB in San Antonio. It was in San Antonio where their twins, Nicole and Brian, were born. That was quite an exciting time trying to raise two young children while juggling his demanding job at the Training Command Headquarters. Again, he was rewarded with an exciting and rewarding position at Laughlin AFB as the Vice Wing Commander where he flew the new T-1 Aircraft.

Col Jarman retired from the Air Force with 27 years of service having flown four different types of aircraft, the KC-135, T-37, T-38, and the T-1. He applied for the airlines and was hired to fly the Airbus out of Phoenix, AZ. He flew with America West who then merged with U.S. Airways, which then became American Airlines. All-in-all he flew 16 years of various Airbus commercial aircraft as a First Officer. Len retired from the airlines at the FAA mandatory age of 65. Since the twins had found their career paths and Len was no longer tied to Phoenix, he and Tracy went back to where it all began in San Antonio to enjoy their retirement.

Len's flying career spanned over 40 years doing what he loved, flying airplanes. He is preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth and Mary Jarman, and his brother, Lou Jarman. He is survived by his wife Tracy Jarman, his son Brian Jarman of Honolulu, HI; his daughter and her husband Nicole and Hassan Alsalman of San Antonio, Tx; his sister and her husband Myra and Steve Huch of East Alton, IL; his sister-in-law, Loraine Jarman of Edwardsville, IL; and various nieces and nephews.