

Paul Manley age 72 of Locust, NJ, formerly of Fair Haven died September 27, 2023 surrounded by his loving family at Walter Reed Medical Center. Beloved husband of Linn (Ahlers) Manley; loving father of Nina Dow (Alex), Elaine Miner (Craig), Lisa Manley Hy (Khe), and Kyle Manley (Elizabeth.) Proud “Pop-Pop” to seven grandchildren. Graduate of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School class of 1969, Air Force Academy class of 1973, The National War College class of 1999. Paul served his country proudly for 30 years in his career with the Air Force reaching the rank of Colonel. He was a veteran of Grenada, Operation Desert Storm, and Iraqi freedom as a pilot flying a C141. In addition, he served as the Squadron Commander at McGuire Air Force Base. During his time at the National War College he parlayed a career at the Pentagon working under the Air Force Chief of Staff running the strategy for Future Combat Systems. In his retirement from the Air Force, Paul continued working as a pilot, flight instructor, and working at various defense contracting companies.

Paul had a daily GTL ritual – Gym, (Reading the) Times, and (questioning) Linn (where his misplaced items were.) Paul loved annual family vacations to Block Island where he loved biking around the island, watching sunsets and his annual ritual of rereading The Great Gatsby.

Whether it was on vacation, at the dinner table, on the Sea Bright Beach Club boardwalk, or wherever his grandchildren were, Paul truly belonged anywhere. He loved immersing himself without reservation in local food, drink, and conversations. He was a captivating story-teller, a master of sarcasm, and a reliable problem solver. In crisis he was the first person you would want fighting on your side. His witty one-liners and stories would be memorable for decades often becoming gospel at subsequent family gatherings.

Well-read, well-traveled, well-spoken, well-lived, Paul soared in the air and thrived on land. He will be dearly missed, not easily forgotten, and celebrated for the lasting legacies he leaves behind