
Milton Ward Jr.(1924 - 2017)

Milton D. "Lefty" Ward, Jr.
1924-2017

Milton David "Lefty" Ward, Jr., passed away on June 21, 2017, in Port O'Connor, Texas. He was born in Huntington, West Virginia to Milton D. Ward and Stella Skaggs Ward on July 10, 1924 and graduated from Marshall College in Huntington. Lefty played minor league baseball between 1942 and 1948 which was interrupted by WWII. He joined the [Army](#) Air Corps in 1942, piloting B-24's and B-25's while preparing for the invasion of Japan prior to the end of the war. He was Honorably Discharged in 1946 and returned home to West Virginia to finish school and play baseball for teams in the St. Louis Browns organization (later the Baltimore Orioles).

Lefty married Joanne Chapman Ward, on July 30th, 1954. His business career led him to Houston where he retired from Motion Industries in 1989 as Vice President and Southwest Divisional Manager. He was a former member of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston.

The outdoors and baseball were Lefty's lifelong passions. He loved hunting and fishing with family and friends, especially in Port O'Connor and Runge, Texas and he was an avid fan of the Houston Astros. Lefty was truly one of "God's great pieces of work"!

Lefty is preceded in death by his parents, Milton D. Ward and Stella Skaggs Ward, his siblings Alma Ward, Richard Ward, Paul Ward and Helen Ward. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Joanne Chapman Ward, his three daughters, Clare Ward [Smith](#) and her husband George "Scooter" Smith, Celeste Ward Noonan and her husband David Craig Noonan and Carolyn Chapman Ward, grandchildren Jason Michael Noonan, Kristan Noonan Schilling and her husband Michael Roger Schilling, Weston Edward Smith and his wife Abigail Wehner Smith and Christopher Ward Smith, and great-grand children Austin Michael Schilling and Ashlyn Jo Schilling.

The family will have a private interment and celebration of his life at a later date. If desired, donations may be made in Lefty's memory to the CCA of Port O'Connor, 6919 Port West Drive, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77024 or Hospice of South Texas, 605 E. Locust Ave., Victoria, Texas 77901.

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