



Robert Mitchell

May 4, 2014

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812-482-4141 Dateline Jasper, IN Major General (Retired) Robert J. Mitchell, age 77 of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 9:35 p.m. on Sunday (May 4, 2014) at home. Robert was born on November 4, 1936 in Petersburg, Indiana to Robert D. and Charlotte (Stewart) Mitchell. He married Carolyn Ward on May 29, 1964 at Winslow Christian Church in Winslow, Indiana. Robert was a retired Major General of the Indiana National Guard. Robert began his military career when he enlisted in the Army Reserve on 15 September 1953 and served as a Military policeman with the 341st Military Police Company. From 1955 to 1959, General Mitchell served on Active duty as an operations specialist and a communications chief with the Field Artillery. He served in the Individual Ready Reserve then enlisted in Company D, 1st Battalion, 152nd Infantry. General Mitchell attended the Indiana Military Academy and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on 12 July 1964. His first commissioned service was as a Weapons Platoon Leader for Company B, 1st Battalion, 152nd Infantry. He served the next 14 years in the 1st Battalion, 152nd Infantry in a variety of command and staff positions to include Liaison Officer, Company Executive Officer, Headquarters Company Commander, C Company Commander, Battalion Operations and Training Officer (S-3 Air), Operations and Training Officer (S-3), and Battalion Executive Officer. He then served as Operations and Training Officer (S-3) for 76th Brigade, 38th

Infantry. In 1979 he returned to 1st Battalion 152nd Infantry, again as the Battalion Executive Officer. Subsequent duty assignments included Director of Industrial Operations at Camp Atterbury; Executive Officer for Camp Atterbury; Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion 152nd Infantry Military Support Officer, Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment STARC, Indiana Army National Guard; Commander 2d Brigade 38th Infantry Division, Assistant Adjutant General (Army) for the State of Indiana, Assistant Division Commander, 38th Infantry Division; and Deputy STARC Commander, INARNG. He assumed Command of the 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized) on August 7, 1995. He was promoted to his rank of Major General on August 7, 1995. In January 1997, he was appointed by Governor O'Bannon as the Adjutant General for the Indiana Army and Air National Guard. He also worked in the coal industry and was a lobbyist for the Indiana and Illinois Coal Council. After his retirement, he served as an Army Advisor to the Country of Georgia to prepare the Georgia for admission into NATO. He was also an honorary member of the General's Club in the country of Slovakia. He was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash twice; He was also awarded the title of "Kentucky Colonel". He has an honorary doctorate from Oakland City University. In later years he was an associate professor in mining technology for Vincennes University. He was knighted a member of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem He was a lifetime member of the Petersburg VFW Post #3587 He enjoyed traveling and reading Surviving,

Wife;

Carolyn Mitchell, Jasper, IN

One Daughter;

Robyn Mitchell, Cincinnati, OH

Three Sons,

Robert C. Mitchell, Bloomington, IN

Ryan Mitchell and his wife Angela, Charlotte, NC

Richard Mitchell and his wife Kelli, Ft. Campbell, KY

Two Grandchildren; Emma and Aaron Mitchell

One Brother;

Fred Mitchell and his wife Linda, Petersburg, IN Preceding him in death were his parents. Funeral services for Robert Mitchell will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday (May 9, 2014) at the Indiana National Guard Armory in Jasper, Indiana, with entombment to follow in the Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum in Jasper. An Army Chaplin will officiate. The Military Department of Indiana Ceremonial Unit will conduct military gravesite rites. Friends may call from 2:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday (May 8, 2014) at the Indiana National Guard Armory in Jasper, Indiana and again from 10:30 to 12:30 on Friday (May 9, 2014) at the Indiana National Guard Armory in Jasper, Indiana. Memorial contributions may be made to a favorite charity. Online condolences may be made at www.becherklesner.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Mitchell*

January 01, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ *Carolyn, my prayers are with you & the family. Saddened to hear about Gen Mitchell's passing. I know Friday will be a hard day. I went thru it myself in '99. I will never forget our little golf outing at Barbers Point NAS in Hawaii. Thank you for allowing me to share a golf cart with you.*

Cathy Conrad - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *TRULY IT WAS MY GOOD FORTUNE TO GROW UP WITH BOB AND FREDDY MITCHELL BACK IN THE 1940'S. HIS MOM AND MINE WERE CLASSMATES YEARS AGO IN BOWMAN, INDIANA. OUR BACKYARDS CONNECTED IN PETERSBURG WHERE WE SPENT OUR CHILDHOOD DAYS TOGETHER MOST EVERYDAY. WE WERE MORE LIKE FAMILY THAN FRIENDS. ABOUT 3 WEEKS AGO "BY CHANCE" WE HAPPENED TO SEE EACH OTHER @JMH AND SPENT TIME JUST TALKING. IT SURE MADE MY DAY JUST SEEING HIM. WE GRADUATED WITH THE PHS CLASS OF 1955 AND HE WAS MY ESCORT. THESE MEMORIES WILL REMAIN WITH ME FOREVER. CAROLYN YOU AND BOB WERE A WONDERFUL COUPLE AND HOW FORTUNATE YOUR CHILDREN WERE TO HAVE YOU AS PARENTS. LOVE AND PRAYERS TO EVERYONE. TILL WE MEET AGAIN.*

Jan & Jim Gladish - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Carolyn and Family:
Roy and I send our prayers and thoughts to you at this time. We are so sorry for your loss and our loss of a friend. Our Deepest Sympathy
Roy & Linda Stofleth
Evansville, IN

Roy & Linda Stofleth - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Carolyn, Pat and I were saddened to learn of Bob's passing. He was a great leader, friend and mentor. His enthusiasm in everything he done was truly contagious. It was a real pleasure working for and serving with him though-out the years. He will be missed. Our prayers are with you and your family.

Col (Ret) Michael James - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Carolyn and family, So sorry. Prayers for you for comfort and strength. Sorry we can not make the service but all will be in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Jeannine

Steve and Jeannine Potter - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ To all the family of the General: I had the privilage of working with Bob doing the mining classes @ VU Mining dept. I consider him as a great friend. Will miss him greatly.

Eldon Dunford - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ We are so sorry for the loss of your wonderful husband, father, and grandfather. We are thinking about you often and sending lots of love your way. With sympathy,
Ashley Fish and family

Ashley Fish - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ I am sorry for your loss, and that I never met him. I know he attended school with my mother, Mary Hope Mitchell (not related on Mitchell side) in Petersburg. My grandmother, Helen Smith Mitchell was the teacher at that school. I found a photo of him this morning and have others with his classes. I would be happy to share them.

Carole Nowicke - May 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ General Mitchell was a great patriot and an Outstanding military professional. He will be missed. JB TAYLOR USMAPS Classmate

MG JB TAYLOR - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ It was truly my "good fortune" to grow up with Bob and Freddy, as neighbors, back in the 1940's and then on thru high school with the PHS Class of 1955. I saw Bob @JMH just recently and we had such a good talk. It made my day and I will treasure it and his friendship forever.

Carolyn, you were such a good wife to Bob and what lucky children to have had you both for as parents.

Janet & Jim Gladish

Jan & Jim Gladish - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Carolyn, I am so sorry for you loss. Bob was a great person. Prayers to you family, and to Fred and his family.

Jo Ann Radcliff - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Carolyn, I am sorry for your loss. I enjoyed working with Bob and had the utmost respect for him. He was an excellent leader, but more importantly a gifted team builder. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your children.

Tanya McCullough - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VS

“ Our deepest and sincere sympathy goes out to your family at the loss of your loved one.

Vincennes University Alumni and Foundation Staff - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Bob Mitchell was a great man, soldier, leader, and friend. From USMAPS to working together in the Republic of Georgia, we enjoyed a friendship that lasted for more than five decades. His honesty and integrity were unparalleled as was his moral and physical courage. He will be greatly missed. To his grieving wife and children, take solace in the fact that during his lifetime, he truly made a positive difference to our Army, the NG of Indiana and American society that very few people achieve. Bill Reno

Bill Reno - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NN

“ Carolyn, I was saddened to learn of Bob's passing and our condolences to the family. As you know Bob and I worked side by side many years during his employment with Old Ben Coal and later in his years at Vincennes University and Custom Staffing. I am proud to call Bob a friend. The Indiana Coal Council, Inc. has made a \$250 contribution to the Wounded Warrior Project in Honor of Bob. Our prayers are with you and your family.

Nat Noland - May 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GD

“ I had the honor of meeting the General through Custom Staffing. I found him to be one of the most colorful and likeable people that I had ever met. The instructors at the community colleges here in southern Illinois would ask about how "Bob" was doing all the time. He was very well thought of. My thoughts and prayers are with Bob and his family during this time. He will be missed by his Custom Staffing family. George Dawe

George Dawe - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ "Mitch" was my Platoon Leader at West Point Prep School. He was a great guy; we shared many memories when I saw him at our last reunion. We lost a good man. Our prayers are with the family. Frenchy Hebert

G.S. "Frenchy" Hebert - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ I am so sadden to hear about the passing of General Mitchell. He was truly a friend to all his Guardsmen, both Soldiers and Airmen. He will be missed. Our prayers and thoughts are with him and his family.

Linda Long - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Carolyn--so saddened to hear about Bob's passing. Working with Bob in the coal industry was always a treat and I was priviledged to call him a friend---he will be missed. My thoughts are with you and your family.

Jeff Eyer - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ I worked training with Bob @ VU. What a great guy! He cared deeply about people & we will surely miss him terribly. My condolences to the family. I will try to get to jasper to the visitation.
Tom Doane

Tom Doane - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ We were saddened to hear about Bob's passing on Sunday. Carolyn our prayers and thoughts are with you and the family during this time. Our deepest sympathy, Rich & Shai

Rich & Shari Karkowski - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of your husband and father, He was a very great person and had given a lot for our country. But he left an excellent example for his kids to follow. Sending prayers and concern for the family. (retired teacher from WES). He will certainly be missed.

Marie and Charley Aldridge - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ So sorry for your loss. My prayers are with all of you.

Sandra Osgatharp - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Faye and I are sad to hear of General Mitchell's passing. Our sympathy and prayers to and your family

Randy Baker - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ To Robyn and the rest of the family, I am so sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

God Bless

Phil & Jody Miley-Claridge

Jody Miley-Claridge - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ MG (Ret) Mitchell was not only a great leader but also a great friend and mentor. I had the privilege of working with his mother in the early '80s and later met him. He was my Bn Cdr and later my Adjutant General. He talked me into coming back into the National Guard in 1984 as a young E-5 and his first act as Adjutant General was pinning on my E-7 at the Jasper Armory the day after taking his oath. I am proud to say he is one of the greatest men I have ever met. From me and my family, Rest in Peace, Bob, you have fought a good fight and now it is time for your reward. God Bless you, and help your family get through this difficult time.

Ralph Hughes - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Condolences to the family. Many fond memories of Prep school at Stewart Field with Bob. God be with you all.

Joe Maio - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ General:

My favorite memories of you as the TAG was when we'd all be in a meeting room and you'd be looking around the room, spotting people, and then gushing forth w memories and stories almost non stop about almost everyone. You were amazing at that.

I also remember you telling my current wife before we were married that she must be doing well, she was the first one you'd seen me bring to a military function three times in a row! You were a hoot! May your next command go as well. I'm sure he's got something up there for ya!

Regards, Bill Strange

Col (Ret)

Col (Ret) Bill Strange - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ *General Mitchell was a great leader, mentor, and officer. He was also a friend. Jane and I greatly valued our relationship with General Mitchell and Carolyn, so we are saddened upon learning of his passing. I have special reason to know the depth of his character; his example will dwell within me until I see him again in that place where all soldiers finally go. We wish we could have seen more of him in his retirement, but he was a private man who led a public life. A great man with an enduring legacy.*

Col. (Ret.) Martin Weaver - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM