

Gerald James Paisley (we know him a Jerry Paisley) April 30, 1925-Jan 6, 2014

Jerry passed away on January 6, 2014 at age 88 and after a wonderful lifetime, leaving his wife Helen, whom he married in 1948, four children (Diane, Deborah, Michael and Scott), 11 grandchildren and several great grandchildren. Jerry and Helen were from Great Bend, Kansas. He served in the US Navy in World War II in the Western Pacific where his ship saw action several times. After returning from the WWII, Jerry graduated from College with an engineering degree and worked for Colonial Pipeline for most of his career. He and Helen retired to Smithfield, VA around 1995.

Jerry was a member of the DC Maxcuters (1976), the Brainbusters Model Airplane Club of the tidewater area (the same club that Earl Stahl belonged to), the Flying Aces Club (a Blue Max holder) and the Kudzu Squadron of the FAC. Jerry and Scott and Helen were very active in attending model plane contests from Geneseo to North Carolina.

I first met Jerry and Scott at Comsat about 1976 along with their buddies Mike Escalante and his dad and Allan and Chris Schanzle. They came to watch Maxcuters fly rubber-powered planes at Comsat. Scott and Jerry became active builders, designers, and flyers. Jerry published several of his designs in Max Fax. The ones I remember were his de Havilland Chipmunk, Brewster Buffalo, and Beechcraft Staggerwing. I also remember his Albatros DIII and Fokker DVII.

You couldn't meet a nicer guy than Jerry. He never spoke unkindly of anyone and always had a great sense of humor and told wonderful stories of his experiences in the Navy. Jerry and I made several trips from the Richmond/Norfolk area to fly in Maxcutter events at Comsat and indoor sessions. Riding with him for several hours and talking of airplanes, kids, the Navy and life in general were great times.

He also would come up to Richmond to fly with me, Wally Farrell, Dave Franks, Dave Rees and Bob McClellan and also attended events at Petersburg. He and Bob were best buddies and they attended almost all of the Kudzu events and the water fly sessions that Dave and Marie Rees put on in North Carolina. We had great fun at those events. Jerry and Helen and Bob and Jane were regulars and great friends.

I am going to miss Jerry a lot. I spoke with him back in early December while he was hospitalized and he sounded just like always. Allan Schanzle and Verna and Sandie and I attended his funeral services and listened to wonderful remembrances of Jerry by Scott. What a great guy and wonderful friend Jerry was.

Thermals Jerry!

Pat Daily
Midlothian, VA

