



Frank George Eaton

JUN 23, 1933 - JUL 9, 2023



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In Loving Memory of Frank George Eaton (1933-2023)

Frank George Eaton, a remarkable individual whose journey spanned 90 years, was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, alongside his identical twin brother Mel Eaton.

From a young age, Frank exemplified dedication, a strong work ethic and a love for sports. At the age of 14, he began his career in the steel mill yard and by 16 he was working in the open hearth. During this time he also played semi-pro baseball and received football scholarships to both the University of Cincinnati and West Virginia Tech.

Frank's thirst for knowledge led him to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering and soon after graduation he embarked on a remarkable path in service to his country. Joining the Marine Corps, he successfully graduated from Officer Candidate School and played a pivotal role in constructing Marine bases in Okinawa along with the construction of roads, bridges, and airstrips in the Luzon Mountains of the Philippines.

Following seven years of honorable service, Frank was accepted into the TRANE advanced training program, specializing in designing strategic industrial and commercial systems. His expertise proved invaluable as he supported the largest organizations across the Ohio Valley industrial complex with sales and service. He then served as a senior engineer for Owens Corning Fiberglass, making significant contributions through multiple patented designs for commercial building use, particularly in the realm of fiberglass ceilings which are found in many buildings today. Frank also lent his skills to the economic engineering department, leaving a lasting impact on the organization.

Driven by his entrepreneurial spirit, Frank opened his own commercial and industrial HVAC business. He went on to patent the push-pull hood, revolutionizing cooling systems in commercial kitchens. His breakthrough invention enabled businesses like Kentucky Fried



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Chicken and Bob Evans to cool their kitchens effectively, allowing them to retain kitchen help and expand their operations. During this time, Frank also befriended Colonel Harland Sanders and Bob Evans himself.

Frank later relocated to Lakeland, Florida to take over a HVAC business which he grew into his own successful company, Highlands Design. Under his capable leadership, the business flourished for many years until his retirement.

Throughout his illustrious career, Frank obtained a remarkable total of 18 patents, a testament to his inventive spirit and unwavering dedication to excellence. He continuously pushed boundaries and left an indelible mark on the industries he served.

Frank later lived in Manasota Key before moving to Fort Myers in 1986 where he lived until his passing.

In 1993, Frank underwent a groundbreaking heart transplant, becoming one of the longest surviving recipients of such a procedure at Tampa General Hospital. This remarkable feat of resilience and the gift of additional years allowed him to cherish the joys of life with his family and friends.

Beyond his professional achievements, Frank's zest for life was evident in his love for music, dancing, and singing. He was an avid traveler, exploring the wonders of 32 countries and

embarking on memorable road trips across the United States. Frank possessed a magnetic personality and heart warming smile, drawing children and dogs to his side effortlessly.

Frank will forever be remembered as a devoted husband to his beloved wife of 37 years, Mary Eaton. His passing leaves a void in the lives of his three children, Ben Eaton (Kimberly Eaton), Stephen Kokenes (Leigh Kokenes), and Kristen Xerras (Greg Xerras). Frank was a loving and doting grandfather to his seven grandchildren, who brought immense joy to his life. He is now reunited with his two daughters, Jennifer Trebesch and Danika Eaton, who preceded him in death.

Frank George Eaton's legacy is one of hard work, innovation, and a genuine love for life. May his soul find eternal peace, and may his memory forever remain a source of inspiration and love to



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all whose lives he touched.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the charity of your choice and consider being an organ donor.
A memorial service will be held at a later date.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Frank by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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