



## Merlin Dale Hehn

July 24, 1936 - July 24, 2014

Merlin Dale Hehn, age 78, of Ellisville, MS lost his battle with medical issues Thursday, July 24, 2014, at Forest General Hospital. He fought a hard battle for many years.

Merlin was born in Scotland, South Dakota. Throughout his life, Merlin was an athlete. He lettered in basketball and football and played on the Boston Red Sox farm league. He was often found running during his lunch breaks on the campus of J.C.J.C.

His careers and opportunities took him to various parts of the world. He joined the military in 1954 serving his country until 1974. Merlin was involved in the fields of electronics and inertial guidance when those fields were at their mere infancy. He completed his service at Keesler Air Force Base teaching inertial guidance. Merlin was also a veteran of the Vietnam War.

Following separation from the service he became an instructor at Jones Junior College where he served as Chairman of the Technical Education Division and taught electronics. Merlin was named Mississippi's Outstanding Technical Educator of the Year 1981 at Mississippi State University and in 1982 he won the award as Outstanding Technical Instructor at the ATEA National Conference. Among his many accomplishments, he co-authored two text books in the area of electronics.

Merlin was an honor graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, receiving a BS in Industrial Technology, MS in Industrial and Vocational Education; Ed.S in Education. He also holds an Air Force Master Instructor

Certificate.

Merlin Hehn was an outstanding member of professional and service organizations. He was a member of Toastmasters International, Ellisville Rotary Club, VFW, and the American Legion. He was a devout member of Immaculate Conception Church serving as Head Usher for many years.

Merlin was predeceased by his parents, Ruben Henry and Lula Hehn and his sister Dian Hehn. Merlin leaves behind his beloved wife, Eloise (Ellie) Ann Hehn. They were married in Sequin, Texas and shared 57 wonderful years together.

Merlin is also survived by his four daughters: Terry Livingston and her husband Bill of San Antonio, Texas; Debbie Chisolm and her husband Steve of Dallas, Texas; Betty Massey and her husband David of Mobile, Alabama; Lizzy Mayfield Frier and her husband Gary of Sarasota, Florida;

seven grandchildren: Mandy Pinkerton and her husband Jeff of San Antonio, Texas; Jenny Simmons and her husband Ryan of Memphis, Tennessee; Melissa Benedict and her husband Tim of Killeen, Texas; Sarah Miller and her husband Ray of Shawnee, OK; Laura Beard and her husband Ryan of Warner Robbins AFB, Georgia; Eric Mayfield and his wife Lisa of Pensacola, Florida; Allison Ray and her husband Christian of Ft. Campbell, KY; ten great-grandchildren; and several nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Merlin is also survived by a brother, Kenneth Hehn and his wife Rosalie of San Angelo, Texas; and a sister, Carol Hehn of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Visitation will be at 9:30 a.m. and Mass will follow visitation at 11 a.m. Monday, July 28, 2014, at Immaculate Conception Church in Laurel with Father Michael Thornton officiating. A reception will follow the service in the Parish Hall. A military funeral will be held at a later date with interment at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas.

Merlin quietly entered the lives of so many from all walks of life. He was a loving, caring husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather but at his core he was a Teacher. Merlin's humor, compassion, and kindness will be missed.

Memory Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. To view and sign the family

certificate.

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guest book, visit [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com).

# Tribute Wall

LG

“ *What great life he had. A wonderful cousin.*

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**Leland Howard Grim** - July 31, 2014 at 01:28 PM

WT

“ *Mr. Merlin was a true gentleman and a good friend and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.*

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**Wayne & Deborah Tanner** - July 29, 2014 at 11:48 PM

RS

“ *Uncle Merle was a wonderful and brilliant man. I cherish every moment I was fortunate enough to spend with him and my wonderful Aunt Eloise.  
Rest in peace in heaven uncle Merle. Although I'm sure they're gonna put you to work as soon as you get there. There's probably ten million souls waiting to take your class.  
We love you very much,  
Russ, Kirsti, Cody and Caleb Solis*

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**Russell Solis** - July 28, 2014 at 12:52 PM

CM

“ *We will always remember the fun times we had when Uncle Merle and Aunt Ellie came out to visit us in Kearney and how Uncle always said it reminded him of his childhood home back in South Dakota. We will miss you. Our prayers are with you Aunt Ellie and Cousins.*

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**Chris and Vonny Miller** - July 28, 2014 at 10:31 AM

MB

“ Remembering all those happy times...you were Arthur's dearest friend; he thought of you as his brother....and My Friend, you will be missed...Thinking of your family and praying for each of you...

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**mary beasley** - July 27, 2014 at 04:16 PM

LJ

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I will always cherish the memories of our good times.I love you very much. LANNY

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**LANNY JOHNSON** - July 26, 2014 at 08:12 PM

JB

“ He will greatly be missed I especially enjoyed listing to all he would talk about of the latest news. The Lord now has another angel.

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**Janice &Roy Beech** - July 26, 2014 at 05:27 PM

LM

“ My love and prayers are with you Aunt Eloise, and cousins.Uncle Merle had a great life and a great family that loved him. He'll continue to be loved and cherished until we meet up with him again. Go with God, Uncle; and when you see my parents, give them a big hug for me.

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**Lorraine Solis Martinez** - July 26, 2014 at 12:16 PM

JS

“ Our sincere condolences to Merlin’s family. We are dear friends of Carol Hehn’s in Milwaukee. We had dinner with Lizzy and Gary when they were visiting Carol a few years ago and we enjoyed the warmth of their company. Through Carol we have heard many stories about your family and how proud she is of how the family cared for Merlin for many years and loved him dearly. Carol will always have our love and support and especially now.

May your many fond memories of Merlin sustain you during this difficult time.

Patricia and Jerry Styberg Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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**Jerry & Patricia Styberg** - July 26, 2014 at 10:10 AM

TW

“ He was a wonderful friend. My prayers for Ellie and her girls.

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**Thad Waites** - July 26, 2014 at 08:55 AM

PP

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Merlin was a truly good man. He will be missed.

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**Pamela Pullman** - July 25, 2014 at 05:33 PM

SB

“ Dear family, What a worthy tribute to your dad.Remembering you in your time of grief.Love Sharon Barham

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**Sharon Barham** - July 25, 2014 at 04:27 PM