



Edward Dawson, Sr.

July 5, 1927 - August 28, 2019

Edward H. Dawson, Sr., 92, Topeka, Kansas, passed away Wednesday, August 28, 2019, at Oak Creek Senior Living.

Ed was born July 5, 1927, and raised, in York, Ontario, Canada, the son of Walter and Lillian Devan Dawson. As a young man, Ed fulfilled his desire to become a United States Citizen and serve in the military during WWII. He proudly served behind enemy lines as part of a Troop Rescue Unit in the Philippines, in what was then known as the U.S. Army Air Corps, receiving several medals and ribbons for his service. Two years after that service, he was recruited to join the newest branch of our military – the new United States Air Force. Ed married Ann Rita McMaster on October 15, 1952; she preceded him in death on February 8, 2011. Upon Ed's retirement from the Air Force in 1967, they moved to Orange Park, Florida, where Ed began a career in real estate. As much as Ed and Ann loved Florida, they wanted to be closer to their family in Kansas and moved to Topeka in 1999. A few years after Ed became widowed, he moved into Oak Creek Assisted Living in Topeka where he found another Kansas family to love and care for him until his death. The staff and his fellow residents there were truly his extended family.

Ed was a devout Catholic earning him the nickname, "The Bishop". He enjoyed supporting Catholic charities and other organizations and had a soft spot for those in need. He spent several years as a volunteer bringing

communion, God's Word and a friendly smile to homebound people around Topeka. Ed has traveled the world, always saw the best in people and genuinely wanted to know all about others – a stranger he did not know. Infamous for his “sweet tooth” and his beautiful smile; he will be missed by all.

Ed is survived by his son, Edward Dawson, Jr. (Connie) of Topeka; grandchildren, Sean Dawson (Chelsey) of San Antonio, Texas, and Kelsie Jefferson (Nick) of Topeka; great-granddaughters, Mia Dawson of San Antonio, and Madaline Jefferson of Topeka; and brother, Wally Dawson of York, Ontario, Canada.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 10 a.m. Tuesday, September 3, 2019, at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 3601 SW 17th Street, Topeka KS 66604, with visitation 30 minutes prior. Burial to follow in Mission Center Cemetery, 29th and Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Memorial contributions may be made to Helping Hands Humane Society, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Cemetery Details

Mission Center Cemetery

29th and Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 3. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church
3601 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church
3601 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ *Edward Dawson, Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Eddie,
I was so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. I will miss your dad's infectious smile and gentle spirit! One of my favorites! He was definitely one of the good ones. May he Rest In Peace after a job well done.*

Sally Anderson - September 19, 2019 at 11:39 PM



“ *Eddie,
So sorry to hear about your Dad.
It looks like he lived a great life.
Tom and Marsha*

Tom Madl - September 02, 2019 at 08:44 AM

JW

“ *Ed Senior and my father became friends while waiting in line for mail. In 1952 the Post Master was a gathering point for those Airmen stationed thousands of mile from home, in this case Athens Greece.*

Over the next 57 years they always stayed in touch with each other. This may not seem as a big deal but anyone who has had the privilege of the military life style understands that you meet literally thousands if not tens of thousands of people in a 20+ year career, so choosing to continue a relationship that takes more work than walking next door is an accomplishment. Ed and Ann, his wife of over 50 years, became my brothers God Parents, attended many of each other's family gatherings and opened their homes to each other. There was no one in this world who had known me as long as he did, having held me as a baby in Athens.

Ed may have been born Canadian but I have known very few more patriotic Americans. He was always politically informed, gentle in his disagreements, willing to listen, and always interested in my opinion: our politicians could learn from his conduct when he disagreed. I always felt as if he cherished seeing my growth as a man. I received too many gifts from him to list such as broadening my intellectual horizons through his well reasoned positions, his understanding of our shared faith, and the life long friendship with my parents.

A devout Catholic, loving husband, and family man, who loved his only child, Ed Jr, he will be missed by me and my family! His greatest gift to me may have been the friendship of his son.

*Deacon John White
Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.*

John White - September 01, 2019 at 08:48 PM

RW

That was beautiful John, Ed senior was my godfather I'll never forget when they took us in when we moved to Maryland the Dawsons will always be our family Ed will missed by everyone that had the privilege to meet him. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.

Robert white - September 02, 2019 at 09:23 AM

JP

“*Ed faithfully came to the Bible studies I led at Oak Creek twice every Month, and he always attended the worship services my congregation provided there--even though we're Lutherans! I could always tell how much he loved the Lord and I was inspired by him. May the Lord bless and keep you, Ed. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
You will be missed!*

Pastor Jim Peters

Jim Peters - August 31, 2019 at 04:59 PM

LT

Eddie& Connie, I'm so sorry to hear about the passing of your dad. He was such a sweet man . You guys are in our prayers. I know he will be missed terribly.

Lori & Jeff Templer - September 02, 2019 at 09:36 AM