



Gilbert N. Rieger

October 14, 1924 - January 13, 2026

"Together Again"

Gilbert N. Rieger, age 101, passed away on January 13, 2026, at Anna Maria of Aurora. He was born on October 14, 1924, in Youngstown, Ohio.

After graduating from high school in Youngstown, Gilbert entered the Army Air Forces. As a proud member of the "Greatest Generation," he served during World War II as a navigator and meteorologist, flying missions in the B-29 Superfortress while mapping the Pacific Theater.

Following the war, he attended Case Institute of Technology, where he earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Gilbert went on to a stellar 35-year career with Westinghouse in Elmira, New York. There, he worked on some of the earliest nuclear projects for the U.S. government, including the first generation of nuclear power plants. Throughout his career, he developed and patented technologies that helped shape how society evolved during the 20th century. One of his notable contributions was work related to cathode ray tube (CRT) technology, which became foundational to early television systems.

Gilbert was a creative and talented individual who enjoyed woodworking and stained glass, creating many pieces that are proudly displayed in the homes of his children and grandchildren. He also loved to play golf, visiting many

famous courses around the country, and never missed watching his favorite players during the season. Above all, he was a loving, kind, and generous father and “Gramps” who will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his daughters, Cathy Smith and Phyllis (Richard) Pittman; grandchildren, Gilbert (Mary) Smith, Richard (Melissa) Pittman Jr., and Jonathan (Julianne) Pittman and great-grandchildren, Camryn, Alex, and Ava Smith, Hazel and Isla Pittman, Rylan and Lena Pittman.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Josephine, and his son-in-law, Donald Smith.

A private service was held.

Interment took place at All Souls Cemetery in Chardon, Ohio.

In his memory, contributions may be made the Lake Humane Society; online at lakehumane.org/

Arrangements entrusted to Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Mentor, OH.

Cemetery Details

All Souls Cemetery

10366 Chardon Rd.
Chardon, OH 44024
(800) 582-6850