

OBITUARY

Cleland Nelson Weller, Jr. passed away in Houston, Texas, on July 24, 2023. He was born in Memphis, Tennessee, on August 19, 1932, to Angelina and Cleland Nelson Weller.

Nelson is a graduate of Pensacola High School and the University of Florida. He served as a fighter pilot and flight instructor in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1952 to 1957, reaching the rank of captain. With a bachelor's degree in building construction, he spent his career overseeing the construction of drilling rigs, platforms, and barges taking him to Alaska, South America, Europe, and the Far East. With this work experience, he wrote *The Overseas Assignment*, published in 1995.

Nelson WWII movies, woodworking, Bossa nova and jazz, going to the shooting range and teaching his children firearm safety. Despite being charged by a baby elephant and snapped at by an alligator blocking the road, he loved animals.. He rescued others, once bringing two baby caimans back home to Alaska, rescued an injured pelican and caught a large snapping turtle in Escambia Bay which became a fixture at the Naval Base. Nelson especially loved dogs from his childhood collie, Jack, to his last companion, Taco, comfortably sharing his recliner.

Nelson is survived by his wife of 53 years, Nancy Weller, sister Angela Eggleston Howard, and brother Regg Weller. He is also survived by his former spouse Anise McGuire; children, Becky Brewington, Leslie Weller, Kim Mickna (Kevin), Cleland Weller, Moira Johansen (Ken), and John Weller; grandchildren, Sean and Blake Brewington, Hali and Wesley Mickna, Emily, Patricia, Lilly and Desmond Sheridan, and Wyatt Van der lee; great-granddaughter, H el ene Santiago Sheridan; niece Meade Ealy and nephew Stephen Eggleston. Granddaughter Georgie Tillett preceded him in death.

We wish to thank Walter Weller, grandson of Alfred Weller, for sharing the family's cemetery plot.

A memorial service and interment of his ashes will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 1:00 pm at St. John's Cemetery, 301 N G Street, Pensacola, Florida. Rev. Katie Gillett of Christ Episcopal Church will be officiating.