

Major Robert Dean Huffman (1930-2017)

Dean was born February 24, 1930 in Logan County to Robert E. and Leta M. (Drake) Huffman. He attended West Mansfield High School, graduating in 1948.

Dean joined the United States Army and served during the Korean War.



After the war, Dean joined the Ohio State Patrol, graduating in the 39th Recruit Class in 1953. Patrolman Huffman served in Greenville, Delaware (1956), and Cincinnati (1963). While in Cincinnati, he was promoted to Corporal. Corporal Huffman also served in London (now West Jefferson) and was promoted to Sergeant.

During 1969, he was promoted to Lieutenant and took command of the London Post. During 1970, he was promoted to Captain and assigned to the Bucyrus district headquarters where he remained to 1973 as an assistant commander. Captain Huffman then commanded the Findlay district from 1973 to 1975 and the Columbus district from 1975 to 1982. He was then promoted to Major in 1982 and commanded

Personnel Operations. Major Huffman retired during 1985 with 35 years of service to his country and state.

During his career, Major Huffman attended and graduated from the prestigious Administrative Officers Course at the Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville. He also completed the Police Executive Development Course at Pennsylvania State University, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Ohio Dominican College.

Following his retirement Major Huffman served as Executive Director of the State Highway Patrol Retirement System for 14 years, until 1998. He then worked part time at National Road Golf Course. Major Huffman delivered Meals on Wheels and was a dedicated member of the Good Samaritan Food Pantry in West Jefferson. He was a long-time member of the United Methodist Church in West Jefferson, serving as Trustee for several years.

Major Huffman passed away Sunday, January 22, 2017, surrounded by his family, at his residence in West Jefferson at the age of 86.

He was by his wife of 54 years, Phyllis Kathleen (2006); brother Dale Huffman; and son-in-law Tony. Major Huffman is survived by his children; Jeff (Gayle) Huffman, Matt (Valerie) Huffman, Carol (Tim) Grice, and Rita Huffman; 9 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and special friend, Carole Sue Ames.

Visitation will be held 4 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at the Rader-McDonald Funeral Home in West Jefferson. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday at the West Jefferson United Methodist Church with Pastor Ruth Pribe officiating. Burial will follow in Pleasant Hill Cemetery in West Jefferson.

Memorial contributions may be made to the West Jefferson United Methodist Church or Loving Care Hospice.