

Gerald Hoffman Riedel (1 Aug 1923 – 31 Dec 1985)

Gerald Hoffman Riedel passed away at The Methodist Hospice in Jacksonville, Florida, after a short battle with lung cancer.

He was a native of Dallastown, Pennsylvania, the son of **Harry Riedel** and **Elsie Hoffman Riedel**. He graduated from Dallastown High School in 1941 and then served in the US Army in both the European and African Theatres of Operation during WWII.

He then attended and graduated first from Gettysburg College and then from Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary. He later obtained a Master of Education degree from The University of Florida in 1967. He served four years as a chaplain in the US Air Force and also served as pastor for Lutheran churches in both Fayetteville and Newport, Pennsylvania. His later years were spent as an employee for the Florida State Employment Service. He began as a counselor and retired in 1985 as the manager of the Jacksonville office.

He had a lifelong love of learning and was an avid reader, having a particular interest in history. He believed that one could never own too many books, and his extensive library testified to that. He wrote several Bible commentaries which were never published, but he hoped to write and possibly publish more works after his retirement. Unfortunately, he died just four months after retiring and so never realized that dream.

He was a man of many talents who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and carpentry, which he learned from his father, who was a skilled cabinet maker. He collected stamps and was a skilled amateur photographer. He grew roses and made wonderful beef jerky on his backyard smoker. He also loved music and played both clarinet and piano.

He was survived by his wife, **Kathryn Campbell Riedel**, a daughter, **Carol Riedel Norman** and her husband, a sister, **Doris Riedel Snyder** and her family, and two grandchildren, **Paula** and **Benjamin**. Funeral services were held at Orange Park Presbyterian Church in Orange Park, Florida. Following cremation, Mr. Riedel was buried in Newport, Pennsylvania.

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