



## Cecil Maxam

February 8, 1948 - December 1, 2021

MSGT Cecil Maxam, US Air Force (RET) of Sunsites, Arizona passed away in Phoenix December 1, 2021, at the age of 73. He was born in Saratoga Springs, New York to Robert Edward Maxam and Clara (nee Tucker) Maxam. Cecil served in the United States Air Force and retired with the rank of MSGT with the Air National Guard serving in Des Moines, Iowa. He also worked in Security and with New Beginnings for Trouble Teens. On November 22, 1969, in Muscatine, Iowa he married his wife Sandy who survives him. He is also survived by his daughter Donna (Dean)Evans of Sunizona, Arizona, and his grandchildren Kenneth Evans, Joshua Evans, Jena Evans, Molly Maxam and Chelsey Maxam. Cecil also was blessed with great grandchildren Alexander, Kailyn, Ember, Mimaia, Carlson and Noah. Preceding him in death was his parents, a grandson Kurtis and two brothers. A Celebration of Life will be held 4:00 pm on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at Westlawn Chapel. Military Honors will be rendered by the Davis Monthan Elite Honor Guard.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

DEC 7. 4:00 PM (MT)

Westlawn Chapel & Mortuary Inc.  
105 S Arizona Avenue  
Willcox, AZ 85643  
(520) 384-2413  
westwx@vtc.net  
<https://www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Cecil Maxam*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *Quinn, Kerr, and Brewer purchased the Healing Tears - Yellow and White for the family of Cecil Maxam.*



**Quinn, Kerr, and Brewer** - December 06, 2021 at 07:20 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Cecil Maxam.*



December 04, 2021 at 10:18 PM

JR

“ I met Max, (I never called him Cecil) when I was assigned into Chanute AFB. Ill. We worked in a huge HR operation. Honestly, the stress was borderline all the time. But Max had an ability just by his personality to make a cloudy day bright and happy. He was very competent but had a way with himself few NCO's I knew had. He did not try to be funny but was able to make light of life, of the circumstances we worked in. I was newly assigned as the junior boss of that sub operation and Max and I got along very well, for that matter, we all got along in that office. He'd find a way to harass me when I was feeling very low. He made me smile. We were all under a lot of stress. I just came in from Germany with a young temperamental wife, I had just lost my dad in Iowa and our overall director was an autocrat.

Max truly took the edge off a lot of those stresses. He and Sandy moved on within the year. I knew I'd lost a professional buddy-- because the days got gloomier. While I did not know it at the time, I was very proud of him when I discovered he'd graduated from the Iowa State Police Academy. We'll in many ways, we all survived the stresses of Chanute AFB. But I never forgot my buddy Max.

Years later, I became the boss of a smaller HR operation in the southern high desert of Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. One day the 366 TFWg was informed that the Air Guard from Des Moines, Iowa would join us for their summer drill and my personnel operation was to have assigned about five to seven airmen and their NCO in Charge was a MSGT Cecil Maxam. My eyes bugged out of my head!

He reported in and my people embraced his team and they were so well trained and lead by Max that we were able to give some of my folks time off in those two weeks. Muchly appreciated. He was purely professional in the presence of his team. We personally greeted each other and both of us restrained ourselves from the old male hug. But the ageless Chanute crazy twinkle in his eye was more than still there. In those two weeks we spent a lot of time

*together. My ex-wife was long in the past. Neither of us were real drinkers but I showed him most all the desert restaurants I hung at. And on the weekend I showed him some of the natural beauty of the area.*

*His friendship was what was best about the military. One day in the early evening after work, while driving one of the better roads in the area, we came upon what I believed to be a dead rattler in the road. Max raised his voice and said "Sir, stop the car, I need to see it. I have always wanted to see a rattler." I raised my voice. "No Max, they are dangerous and it might be alive." Well, he insisted and I stopped the car and yes, he jumped out. He was making this guy nervous. There was no traffic and he went over and started kicking at it--it was dead. But they can still bite after death.*

*He came back with a crazy grin, got into the car and I just looked at him and shook my head. He was still more than able to make me smile--crazy Max. The deployment ended and we said our goodbyes. Both of our lives were very busy but occasionally we stayed in touch through the years.*

*Max, you truly meant a great deal to me. We were friends. You were and are a good person. You have proven to so many of us what leadership was suppose to be. Cecil Maxam, you have run the good race, you fought the good fight. You have more than earned the right to stand down. You are now in the arms of a loving Jesus Christ, preparing the way for us. I know you'll always watch over your family and I hope you'll say a prayer for me.*

*From a longtime Air Force friend, you made me laugh when I needed it most,*

*God's speed buddy,*

*Jerry*

*Jerry Rolwes,*

*Lt Colonel, USAF Retired*

**Jerry Rolwes** - December 04, 2021 at 01:33 PM



*Thank you for writing this. I enjoyed reading this very much!*

**Donna Evans** - December 04, 2021 at 04:34 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Cecil Maxam.*



December 04, 2021 at 09:49 AM



“ *Plants-A-Plenty was purchased for the family of Cecil Maxam.*



December 04, 2021 at 09:44 AM



“ *Mom, Milaya and I are thinking about you, Donna, Dean and the rest of the family. We not be able to be there in person, but we will be there in heart. Ordered flowers to be delivered for Dads celebration of life. Lots of Love and Hugs. Gary & Milaya*



**Gary Beaver** - December 03, 2021 at 03:11 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Cecil Maxam.*



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December 03, 2021 at 03:08 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Sandy and family, thinking of you at this time*

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**mary bragg** - December 03, 2021 at 11:40 AM



“ *Sandy and family... Steve and I are so sorry for your loss. Cecil was such a good man and we enjoyed talking with him when we seen him. God bless you all.  
Steve & Lisa Phelps*



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**Steve & Lisa Phelps** - December 03, 2021 at 10:13 AM



“ *Dakota Levine lit a candle in memory of Cecil Maxam*



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**Dakota Levine** - December 03, 2021 at 09:47 AM