



## Phillip Fay Cox Sr.

March 21, 1948 - July 23, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Phillip Fay Cox Senior, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, sibling, uncle, and friend, who left us on July 23, 2025. Phillip dedicated 30 years of his life to serving in the Air Force, where he achieved the rank of Chief Master Sergeant before retiring. His unwavering commitment to duty and leadership made a lasting impact on those around him.

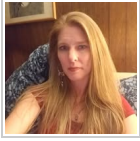
Following his military career, Phillip transitioned to the civilian workforce, where he worked at MAB Paint and later at Sherwin-Williams until his retirement. Known for his strength of character and integrity, he was loved and respected by many, and his quiet demeanor belied the profound influence he had on his successors and colleagues.

Phillip is predeceased by his father John Cox and his mother LaVonna Mertz. He is survived by his beloved wife since 1972; JoAnne Cox, and their two children: daughter Roberta Cox-Nielsen and son Phillip Cox Jr. with wife Nichole Cox. He took great pride in his five grandchildren: April Nielsen, Tara Nielsen, Kevin Williams, Annaliesa Williams, and Catherine Cox, his two great-grandchildren: Bryson Adams and Hunter Palfy, with a third great-grandchild on the way. As well as his sisters Judy Byers and Cindy Ratikin and brother Joe Cox, with several nieces and nephews, with great nieces and nephews.

Throughout his life, Phillip embraced the simple pleasures, teaching us the importance of cherishing everyday moments. Whether watching the Super Bowl, enjoying NASCAR races every Sunday, working on his mini, taking rides on his Harley, or mowing the lawn; he showed us that life is to be lived fully, filled with laughter, joy, and serenity.

Phillip Fay Cox Senior will be deeply missed but fondly remembered for the love he shared and the memories he created with all

# Tribute Wall



“ I am so proud to have served with Cheif Cox. I will never forget when my son was born and my husband and were scheduled to work the Air Show at McGuire the days after I brought him home. Chief found out we were still coming to fulfill our obligation and he made sure we could park on the flightline, had shade and a chair to sit in and someone to help with my newborn son. He and his wife showed compassion, caring, and made it a day I have cherished for the past 32 years. He showed the same compassion at work and helped me be a better Airman. He was an amazing man and will be missed.

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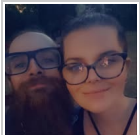
**Heather Gardner** - July 26, 2025 at 01:35 PM

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“ We were proud to have served with Phil. His easy smile and kind words about everyone were a hallmark of who he was. We salute you, brother. Patrick & Nancy O'Brien

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**Nancy OBrien** - July 26, 2025 at 11:53 AM



“ I will forever miss my grandfather, he was the strongest and most loving man I could've asked to be in my life.

*There will not be a service at this time, but a celebration of life at a future date. Any donations please direct them to Wounded Warriors as asked by his wife, JoAnne. <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>*

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**April Nielsen** - July 26, 2025 at 10:56 AM