



# Edward Joseph Slattery

MAR 30, 1927 - NOV 29, 2020



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## Edward Joseph Slattery

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**E**dward Joseph Slattery, Jr., age 93, of Belleair, FL captained his final flight on November 29, 2020. This flight touched down where he could meet the Lord, his predeceased son, Eddie, his siblings Shirley Pettit, Pixie O'Connor, Michael Slattery, and his pilot friends that had also "Gone West". He is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 73 years, Nancee; Eight surviving children, Matthew (Donna), Daniel (Sheila), Terry (Jimmy) Sullivan, Steven, Melanie Bautel, Nancee (Bill) Laursen, James (Donna), and Christopher (Keli); 21 grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. He also is survived by his brother Thomas (Nancy) and a sister, Patricia (Dr. Ron) Blackman.

A 7th generation Washingtonian, "Eddie Joe" grew up in Washington, DC, attended Gonzaga HS and graduated from Western HS. He then enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1944 so that he could serve his country and fulfill his dream of becoming a pilot. When World War II ended in 1945, he landed a job with All American Airways (which later became Allegheny Airlines, then US Airways, and now American Airlines). Ed ("Slats") started as a Flight Agent, but was promoted quickly to co-pilot, then captain. He became a well-respected senior pilot with the company until his retirement in 1986. He was involved in many pilot organizations throughout his retirement years including the Quiet Birdmen, Experimental Aircraft Association, and US Air Soaring Eagles (Retired Pilots Organization).

Ed was a natural mechanic, who loved working on cars, motorcycles, and airplanes. He owned a few gas stations during his working years and would be there full-time when not flying. These businesses gave him the opportunity to both work on vehicles and to give the neighborhood boys a place to work, learn, and become men. His generous, caring, helpful personality affected literally thousands of people that he encountered. He had a countless number of friends across the United States. He also never passed a hitchhiker without saying: "Hop in." He never passed a broken-down



## Obituary

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car without stopping and asking: “What seems to be the trouble?”

Family always came first for Ed, raising nine children with Nancee. He sometimes would fly back during a working trip just to make a championship ball game or to cheer up a sick child! He was very supportive of his family in all their endeavors. Ed’s generosity to others was only exceeded by his love for his family.

When Ed realized his final flight was about to embark, he simply wanted to stick a picture-perfect, smooth landing. We are certain he achieved this goal on his most important flight because he never missed a landing in his entire life. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. The celebration of Ed’s life has just begun and his impact on every person he met will resonate for generations. The family would like to thank all the doctors and nurses that cared for Ed. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to Morton Plant Mease Health Care Foundation and Designated to Cardiology programs – 1200 Druid Rd., S. Clearwater, FL 33756.

Services will be at a later date at Belleair Country Club.



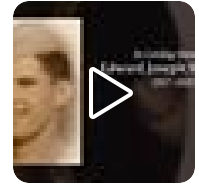
## Tribute Wall

**Edward Joseph Slattery**

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**Moss Feaster Funeral Home & Cremation Services** shared a **Video**.



November 5 at 6:06 AM



**Nancee Laursen** posted:

Always thinking of you dad! You are the best dad to ever be awarded to a kid.

February 26 at 4:56 AM



**Alyssa G.** posted:

Miss you Grandpa ♥

October 19 at 4:38 AM



**Billy Tammaro** posted:

A BEAUTIFUL AND INSPIRING TRIBUTE TO A FINE MAN AND WONDERFUL FAMILY. MY CONDOLENCES . BILL TAMMARO

December 17 at 5:10 PM



**Kathryne Anne Pusch** posted:

My dad, William Tammaro, says he was like a big brother to so many kids in their neighborhood growing up. Patsy was my dad's age. He says they were special people, a great family.

December 17 at 3:43 PM



**Joe Mckay** posted:

So sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Slattery. Our condolences to the Slattery family and all the grand children 🙏🙏🙏

December 16 at 12:05 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RM

**Richard Macsherry** posted:

Very sad to learn that the great Ed Slattery has died. Indelible memories of the Slattery home in the Palisades, the open arms of Nancee and Ed warmly welcoming one and all. Wasn't there a Slattery in every grade at Our Lady of Victory? Many years later, Ed let me shoot a short 5 min. film at his gas station on MacArthur Blvd. Always, he was interested, super-positive and encouraging. He made you feel all things were possible. Sending all of my love to the great Slattery clan; especially, to you Nancee and to my former classmate Matt and to Danny and Terry. Wishing you all health and happiness. Love, Rick Macsherry

December 16 at 7:30 AM

MV

**Michael Vetter** posted:

Ed was an amazing man. I met him through his son Eddie and he was such a wonderful warm loving man. He loved all of his friends and children dearly. Ed could fix ANYTHING. He loved to figure stuff out and help you with whatever issue you had. His love for Nancee was amazing. Although I haven't seen Ed in a while he has never left my thoughts. I have such fond memories of my visits with him and the entire Slattery family. I also felt like a part of the family. Ed, you will be missed. My prayers go out to all of the family.

December 7 at 3:18 AM

NL

**Nancee Laursen** September 13 at 6:08 AM

Mike, my dad thought the world of you. Thank you for posting.



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**Hilary Stoner** shared 4 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

As one of his many grandchildren, I was always amazed that grandpa could remember so many details about me. He remembered what schoolwork I was most interested in, what sports I was playing, what college I wanted to go to...even though we lived states away and didn't see each other often in the high school and college days. I am often nostalgic for his plane rides as a young child, where he would fly us over the ocean and point to how close the sharks were to the people swimming. One time, my brother (Brendan) threw up on the plane and grandpa acted like it was no big deal. He laughed it off and cleaned it up with coke! Whenever we would visit, grandpa loved to enjoy a meal with us and find something that was broken so he could show us how to fix it. I think a lot of us have hoarding tendencies that we might have gotten from him. I believe my love of family history and stories comes right from him. While many others of his generation were quiet and stoic, he was always chatty, jolly, and seemingly carefree while still being passionate about his beliefs. With his grandchildren, he was always wanting to partake in the prank of the moment or show us something interesting that he found in his piles of stuff. When I had my first car and the many troubles that come along with it, grandpa always had a solution to fix it without having to take it in - or could tell me what the problem was so I didn't get a mechanic ripping me off. He was so supportive of all of those around him and you couldn't help but feel the love and kindness that radiated off of him. He will be missed dearly.



December 4 at 10:20 AM



## Tribute Wall

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TS

**Terry Sullivan** posted:

Dear friends and family, doctors and healthcare workers, I know I speak for my mother and siblings as I thank you for honoring dad with your thoughts, prayers, friendship, care, stories, and love. What a unique man our dear, old dad, Ed Slattery was! He was a generous and loving man who found good in everyone, wonder in science and nature, and worth in every creature and thing. Eddie Joe was a natural born teacher and along with his siblings, Ed was blessed with "the gift of gab" and a true knack for storytelling. Ed valued his family and faith. If you knew Ed Slattery, you were part of his family! It was always "The more the merrier!" in our family. Over the years, we had many crew members, and old and new friends, sharing a beer, a meal, or a holiday, some even staying for extended periods of time. Our doors were always open and we never knew who would be sitting at our large, cherry kitchen table that Ed made, waiting for him and his open arms to return. Dad shared his comforting faith in God and went the extra mile to help another. Every Sunday, after going to Mass, and often after fixing someone's car in the church parking lot, we would visit his parents, the remarkable Kathleen and Ed, and brother Mike. Kathleen's constant laughter was contagious! "Live, love, and laughter" could have been Ed Slattery's own phrase. I have so many memories of a childhood filled with love, laughter, and really living. Ed was an impulsive man, and at any given time, he would pile us all into the station wagon for an impromptu trip. He would often take the entire neighborhood on rides in his yellow Model A or short jaunts on his Harley. Dad made bonfires for us in the park across the street from our DC home and took us to the C&O Canal and the Potomac River to hike, swim, fish, and ice skate. He played in our street sports and supported our school sports. Often, dad would take the whole crew to Palisades Playground and Glen Echo Amusement Park, but the thrilling "roller coaster" rides in various small planes were the best! One of our favorite allowances, against mom's wishes, was climbing a tall tower on the route to Rehoboth Beach. We knew we were living after moving to Florida and Ed and Nancee bought a house with a pool and a couple more bathrooms, dad parked his airstream on undeveloped Clearwater Beach, and parked his small planes in a hangar at Clearwater Airpark! Not only did Ed Slattery, or "Slats", play hard, he worked hard. Dad was the ultimate "fix-it" man. Wearing one of his notorious flannel shirts, dad would invent creative ways to fix anything with anything that was available at the moment. Ed worked hard at his commercial airline pilot job and his service station businesses and on his homes, cars, motorcycles, planes, and projects. He was known to try and fix anyone and any problem that anyone would bring to him. The one thing that I believe he did not have to work hard on was his marriage of almost 73 years, as there was never any doubt about the love Ed and Nancee shared. In the last few months and years, dad read many health manuals and ordered many elixirs to even try and fix his ailing body. We all take comfort that, in the end, his soul was fixed and he was ready to go in peace to be with the Lord. Dad, you had a wonderful, well-lived life and you will be greatly missed! You were so much to so many... Farewell until we meet again, and Rest In Peace Daddy, Dad, Pops, Grand-Pa, Grand-Pop, Great Grand-Pa, Great Grand-pop, Uncle Ed, Eddie Joe, Ed, Slats, Mr Slattery, Honey, Hubby, Friend, Brother, Captain, Friend, Mentor, Inventor, Son

December 4 at 10:20 AM

JR

**Juan Ruth** December 8 at 6:28 PM



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TS

My heart is almost to full to write about Ed. One thing I learned from Ed is that there is no such thing as a factory sealed unit. We can fix it. Those that know Ed know that the story's about Ed can't be made up, no matter how outrageous or unbelievable. I know because I lived through a few of them. Tv doesn't have the edge on the Slattery's. Wonderful family. I am blessed to know them. May God's light shine upon them. My mother always thought that God holds a special place for Nancee because she sure deserves it. God bless you all.

DO

**Dennis Oconnor** posted:

RIP my friend. I am going to miss the Wed. lunches & QB meetings with you. I know you are in a better place. Strong tailwinds Slats. Burro, Dennis

December 6 at 6:42 AM

PG

**Pamela Gispert** posted:

I got to know Ed Slattery because he is the father of one of my dearest friends. He was an amazing man. I saw him as a tower of leadership setting an example of God first, loving his family, and friends . He was full of wisdom and his heart was big enough for all who had the privilege of knowing him. He always had a kind caring word. He will always be a man I look up to for his legacy will live on. He always helped others, had time for a friend, never judged others, was truly a genuine person of honesty, always the strength and calm in the room and Ed had the joyful outlook that good will triumph always. Ed Slattery will be missed greatly. Rest in the peace of God. With Sympathy and Love for the Slattery Family, Pam and Rene Gispert

December 6 at 6:09 AM

DM

**David Mclay** shared an album called **Memories Album.**



December 5 at 1:05 AM



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DM

**David Mclay** posted:

Brother Ed ("Slats") was a dear and supportive fellow aviator who extended his warm friendship, generosity, and happy personality with so many of us in the Tampa Bay area. At our monthly fraternity meetings and Wednesday lunches Ed would regale us with fascinating stories of his flying experiences over the years including encounters with challenging weather, aeroplane malfunctions, and characters he met during his airline career and in general aviation. His concern for the well-being of others began with family and friends, and extended to countless others who were in need of a helping hand. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nancee and the family. It was, indeed, a privilege and an honour to have been considered your friend, Ed: May you Rest in Peace, in the company of loved ones who have gone before!

December 5 at 12:51 AM

MR

**Matt Rice** posted:

A Great Washingtonian & Great Gonzaga Eagle RIP

December 4 at 3:46 PM

WJ

**Walter Jubien** posted:

My life would be very different without Captain Edward Slattery. On Christmas Eve 1975? After working at Ed's gas station, we had a little celebration there. I drank some peppermint schnapps, then on the way to his house for some more Christmas Eve fun I had a car accident, the police were called. I called Captain Slattery and by time he got there I was in handcuffs in the back of the police car. Captain Slattery was in his Airline Uniform, he talked to the police and the driver of the car I hit. Next thing I know I was out of the police car headed to his house to write up a statement that I would take care of any damages and expenses. I have later become a Professional Pilot, this may not have been possible if not for his help that day. Walter Jubien

December 4 at 10:20 AM



## Media

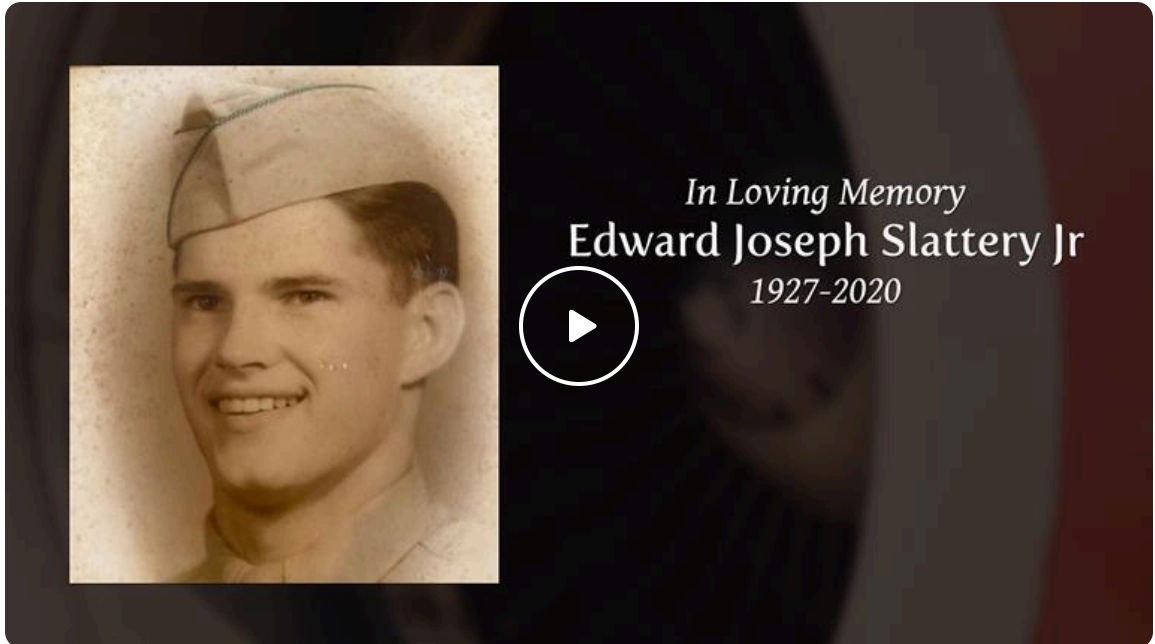
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November 5 at 6:06 AM





# Media

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December 6 at 10:55 AM





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December 5 at 1:05 AM



St. Petersburg Museum of History 1 Jan. 2014



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Edward by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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