



John Solon Saxon

July 7, 1922 - August 22, 2003

Saxon, John Solon, of Bryan, Texas, 81, died peacefully at the Veteran's Hospital in Temple, Texas on Friday, August 22nd, 2003 from complications related to diabetes. John was born on July 7th, 1922 in Bryan, Texas. He is survived by his wife, Katherine M. Saxon of Richardson, Texas and his four children, Jean of Denver, Colorado, Rose of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, John and Mary Lou of Dallas. John had a long and successful career starting with his graduation from the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland and receiving an advanced degree in aeronautical engineering from Cal Tech. He was a fighter pilot for the U.S. Navy and flew hundreds of missions including flights near atomic bomb explosions as part of a weapons testing program. After the Navy, he became an engineer at Texas Instruments in Richardson, Texas where he was instrumental in the development of FLIR or Forward-Looking Infrared which is the night-vision video still used by police and military aircraft all over the world. After retiring from TI, John wanted to return to his ranching roots in Bryan and moved back to his parent's ranch on the Navasota River-bottom to smoke cigars and raise Chianina cattle. We love you, Dad, and will never forget you. There will be a service at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery at 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, Texas 75211 at 10 AM on Thursday, August 28th where John will receive military honors. Donations in his honor may be made to the American Diabetes Association, Attn.: adaweb, PO Box 1833, Merryfield, VA 22116