

HIGH FLIGHT

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds...and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of...

wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew.
And, while with silent, lifting mind, I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

—JOHN GILLESPIE MAGEE, JR.



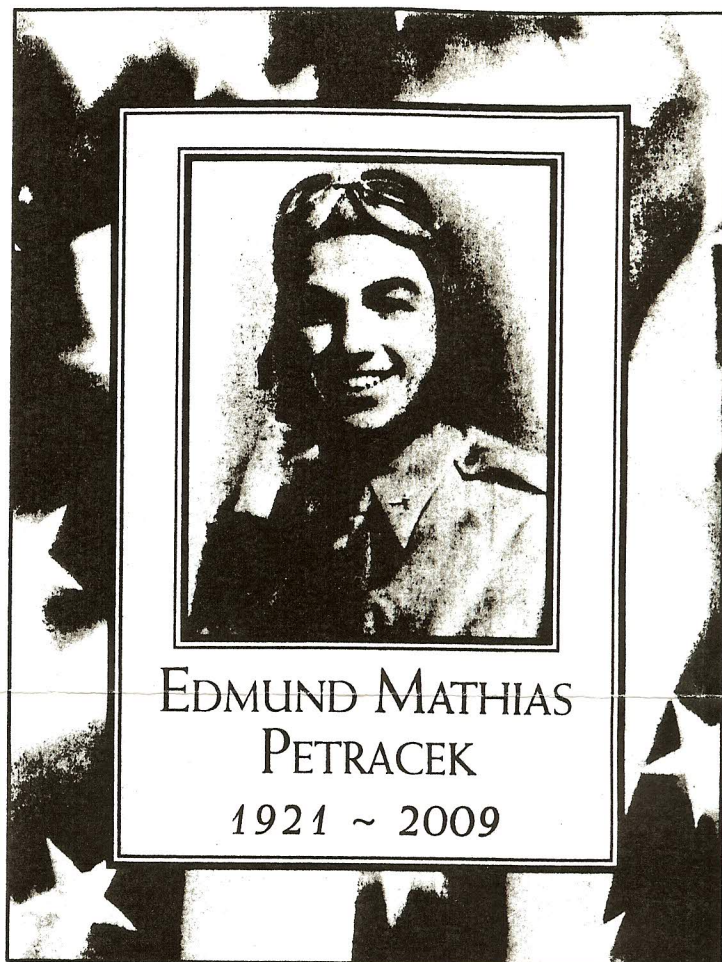
FAIRHAVEN

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Arrangements by Brad Myrand

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EDMUND MATHIAS PETRACEK, age 87 of Santa Ana, California, passed away on August 22, 2009. Edmund was born on November 16, 1921 in Vesta, Redwood County, Minnesota. His parents were Frank and Magdalena (Kramer) Petracek. Edmund grew up in a farming family with three brothers and two sisters. Times were hard during the great depression but there was strong support from the extended family, the community and the Catholic Church. •Edmund had a rich military career starting with his enlistment as a cadet in the US Air Corp. in December, 1941. He served as a test pilot at Williams Field, Arizona and other US locations. He was honorably discharged as a 1st Lieutenant in November, 1945. He went on to become a member of the Air Force National Guard in California and retired from the Guard in 1976 with the rank of Lt. Colonel. In civilian life, he remained connected to his love of flying by becoming an airways operations specialist working in the tower at Burbank Airport and the International Oakland Airport. Throughout his careers Edmund received many commendations, citations and letters of appreciation. •During Edmund's cadet training in Santa Ana he met Ruth LaMar Liggett. They married on May 28, 1943 in Hope, Arkansas. After the war they lived in California where they raised their daughter and three sons. They shared sixty years of married life until Ruth's death in 2003. •He is survived by his sons Michael, Steven and Gregory; his daughter Elizabeth; his brothers Donald and Francis; and sister Mary Ann De Sutter. In addition he leaves many nieces and nephews. Edmund was predeceased by his wife Ruth, brother Clarence, sister Patricia and many friends. •Edmund had many roles in his long life, first as a farm boy, then as husband and father. But above all he was a flyer. May the heavens open for his spirit to soar with his comrades of old.



EDMUND MATHIAS
PETRACEK
1921 ~ 2009

In Loving Memory

EDMUND MATHIAS PETRACEK

Born

November 16, 1921
Vesta, Minnesota

Passed Away

August 22, 2009
Santa Ana, California

Graveside Service

Thursday, August 27, 2009, 11:30 A.M.
Fairhaven Memorial Park
Santa Ana, California

Interment

Fairhaven Memorial Park
Santa Ana, California