

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE MCDANIEL FAMILY EXTENDS OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SHARED CONDOLENCES, ATTENDED THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE, SENT GIFTS, MADE DONATIONS, AND/OR KEPT OUR FAMILY IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

YOUR LOVE AND SUPPORT HAVE MEANT SO MUCH TO OUR FAMILY AS WE HONOR CAPTAIN MCDANIEL'S LIFE AND LEGACY.

PALLBEARERS

MICHAEL MCDANIEL

CHRIS MCDANIEL

JESSE LINDSAY

CASEY LINDSAY

ZACH LINDSAY

EDDIE KIM

ETHAN MCDANIEL

HONORARY PALLBEARER — IN MEMORIAM:
DARYL MCDANIEL

FINAL RESTING PLACE

CAPTAIN MCDANIEL WILL BE LAID TO REST AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, WITH BURIAL ANTICIPATED FOR THE FALL. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE SHARED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
CAPT. EUGENE B. "RED"
MCDANIEL (USN, RET.)

SEPTEMBER 27, 1931 - AUGUST 07, 2026

ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL

BEN ELLIOTT

WELCOME & PRAYER

TOM HOLLIDAY

HYMN: AMAZING GRACE

JIM LINDSAY & BEN ELLIOTT

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 23

CAMRYN LINDSAY

HYMN: AMAZING LOVE

JIM & LESLIE LINDSAY & BEN ELLIOTT

FAMILY TRIBUTES

LESLIE LINDSAY, DAVE MCDANIEL & MIKE MCDANIEL

HYMN: ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

JIM LINDSAY & BEN ELLIOTT

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 91

DOROTHY MCDANIEL

SERMON

TOM HOLLIDAY

HYMN: GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

JIM LINDSAY & BEN ELLIOTT

BENEDICTION

TOM HOLLIDAY

FAMILY RECEIVING LINE IN THE LOBBY FOLLOWING THE
SERVICE, FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION DOWNSTAIRS.

OBITUARY

Eugene “Red” McDaniel, 94, a Navy pilot shot down over North Vietnam who spent six years as a prisoner of war (POW) and later retired as a captain, died of congestive heart failure on August 7, 2026, in his home in Mount Vernon (Alexandria), Virginia.

Captain McDaniel was shot down near Hanoi on May 19, 1967, and was missing in action until March 1970, when the Hanoi government acknowledged he was being held as a prisoner of war. He was released on March 4, 1973, after the Vietnam cease-fire and returned home to his wife Dorothy and his three children, who were living in Virginia Beach, Virginia. When he returned from Vietnam, he was awarded the Navy Cross, the Navy's highest award for bravery. Among his other military decorations are two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit with Combat “V”, the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Bronze Stars with Combat “V”, and two Purple Hearts for wounds received during his torture as a prisoner of war. He is the author of “Scars and Stripes”, a book telling of his experiences in a prisoner of war camp in Vietnam.

When Captain McDaniel returned from Vietnam, he returned to flying the A6A Intruder and later served as Commanding Officer of USS Niagara Falls and aircraft carrier USS Lexington. He retired from the Navy in 1981, after serving as Navy/Marine Corps Liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Following his retirement, Captain McDaniel founded the American Defense Institute and the American Defense Foundation, non-profit organizations dedicated to promoting a strong national defense. He served as president of the two organizations until 1998. He also founded a home health care agency, ACCFamily, based in Alexandria. He spent the past four decades pursuing the truth about the men who were missing in action and didn't return from the war. He believed his bombardier navigator, LT James “Kelly” Patterson, had been sent to the former Soviet Union due to his vast technical knowledge about their state-of-the art A6A aircraft. He was a leader among thousands across the country pursuing the truth about the POW/MIA issue.

Survivors include his wife of 70 years, Dorothy Howard McDaniel of Alexandria; three children, Michael Howard McDaniel (Captain, US Navy (retired)) and Leslie McDaniel Lindsay, both of Alexandria; and David Eugene McDaniel of San Diego, California, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.



CAPT. EUGENE B. “RED” MCDANIEL (USN, RET.)

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