Marion Dee von Roeder, 83, passed away peacefully Friday, September 28, 2012, while under the care of Hendrick Hospice. Burial of his cremated remains, with military honors, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, November 5, at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Abilene.

Marion was born December 12, 1928, in Ranger, Texas, to the late, Herbert Spencer and Loys Ethel Childers von Roeder. He graduated from Wylie High School in 1946, and took his first flying lessons during his senior year at the Abilene Airport. Soon after, with his friend, Marcus Little, he joined the U.S. Army; later becoming a member of the U.S. Air Force. He became a commissioned officer at age 19 at Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport. He flew the SA16 Grammar Air Rescue in Korea; his favorite bird, the B25, but qualified by count some 17 other planes. His active duty ended November 1952, followed by many years of flying commercial aircraft and teaching others to fly.

Marion and Frances Childers Dean married September 21, 1984, living in Rockville, Maryland until 1992. Upon retirement, they returned home to Abilene.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Dean von Roeder; two daughters, Dee Ann Schneider (Elmer) of Bryan, and Penny Rychersky (Regan) of Taylor; step-daughter, Deborah Dean De Sando (Michael) of Frederick, Maryland; brother-in-law, Harry Childers and his family of Seagraves; four grandchildren, Kristofer Rothe, Courtney Rothe and Katherine Dockery, all of Bryan and Preston Rychetsky of Taylor; two step-grandsons, Nicholas De Sando (Cris) of Rockville, Maryland and John De Sando of Frederick, Maryland; a great-grandson, Mikey De Sando of Rockville, Maryland; numerous cousins, nieces, nephews all of Snyder.

Marion was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Jill Lynn von Roeder; and a brother, Robert Lee von Roeder.

Marion served as a "favorite Pa" to Lisa (Dr. Norm Gonzales). He also had a dear friend, Tim Ibbotson, who supported and cared for him during this difficult time. The family would also like to thank Dr. James Purpura, Bill Kincaid and Mandy, who have helped us on this incredible journey with Alzheimer's disease.

Memorials may be made to the research of Alzheimer's disease.

Online condolences and guest book may be signed at

www.abilenefuneralhome.com

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