



# Carl William Strombitski

March 11, 1948 - October 22, 2023

Carl William Strombitski was born March 11, 1948, in Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada and passed peacefully on October 22, 2023, in Durant, Oklahoma.

Carl was the son of Jessie Louise (Oakes) Strombitski and John William Strombitski. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Mary Ann (Stephenson) Strombitski, of Durant; daughter, Carla (Strombitski) Nejad and husband, Sam of Lone Tree, Colorado; brother Terrence John Strombitski and wife Marianne of Gallitin, Tennessee; a brother-in-law David Stephenson and wife Rita, nieces Catherine Schuster and Terrienne Medina along with several great nieces and a great nephew.

He attended Morningside High School (Inglewood, California) and at the age of 17 gained permission to enlist in the US Navy during the Vietnam War. After his time in the service, he earned his GED and became a second-generation airman, graduating from Spartan School of Aeronautics, Jenks, Oklahoma. His love of flight took several forms, earning designations of Private, Commercial, Ground, Instrument, Certified Flight Instructor, and Instructor of Certified Flight Instructors. He logged over 5,000 hours over his career. Carl helped form and build three commercial commuter airlines— Golden State Airlines, Maui Air and Pacific Coast Airlines.

As a young man, he was a surfer and took part in the Jesus revolution. He came to a saving faith on a California beach when approached by Chuck Smith, founder of Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa. He traveled to more than 30 countries and learned some languages from each.

He met Mary Ann on a plane flight out of Washington D.C. They married the following year on August 24, 1991, at the First Presbyterian Church in McAlester, Oklahoma. Carl was a man of vision, passion, quick humor, tenacity, and quiet faith. The sky and life held limitless possibilities for him. He instilled these qualities in his daughter. Beyond training scores of pilots, later in life Carl became a homeschool father.

A celebration of Carl Strombitski's life will be held at 4:00 PM Friday, October 27, 2023, at Brown's Funeral Service Chapel. Pastor Lee Armstrong will officiate. Honorary pallbearers include John Rittenhouse, Jimmy Carter, Mary Patton, Jacob Patton, and Ethan Patton.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Victory Life (Hands of Hope) Food Bank, Durant, Oklahoma. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.brownsfuneralservice.com](http://www.brownsfuneralservice.com).

Arrangements are under the direction of Brown's Durant Funeral and Cremation Service.

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/TDHNGQBC2MB4P7TK>

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

OCT 27. 4:00 PM (CT)

Brown's Funeral Service - Durant

4900 West US Hwy 70

Durant, OK 74701

(580) 920-0393

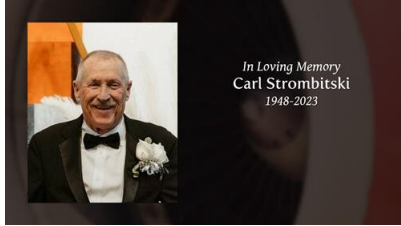
[info@brownsfuneralservice.com](mailto:info@brownsfuneralservice.com)

<https://www.brownsfuneralservice.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Brown's Durant Funeral Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Carl William Strombitski*



**Brown's Durant Funeral Service** - October 26, 2023 at 10:28 AM

NT

*What a blessed life. Always the perfect gentleman and loved by many. He will be greatly missed. Blessings to all.*

**Nancy Thurman** - October 27, 2023 at 06:33 AM

DC

“ *Dave and Anissa Curliss purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Carl William Strombitski.*



**Dave and Anissa Curliss** - October 27, 2023 at 02:39 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carl William Strombitski.*



October 26, 2023 at 04:30 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Carl William Strombitski.*



October 26, 2023 at 04:26 PM



“ 85 files added to the album *Gallery of Pictures*



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**Brown's Durant Funeral Service** - October 26, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ *Fall Fantasia* was purchased for the family of *Carl William Strombitski*.



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October 24, 2023 at 11:38 AM