

## **Colonel R.L. "Bob" Griffin, 73** **U.S. Air Force (Retired)**

*Nov. 28, 1930 - Jan. 3, 2004*

**TUCSON, AZ** – Colonel R.L. "Bob" Griffin, U.S. Air Force (Retired), was born Nov. 28, 1930, in Tulsa, OK. He graduated from Mineral County High School in Hawthorne, NV. He earned a baccalaureate degree in electrical engineering from Oklahoma State University and an MBA from the University of Nebraska. He was also a graduate of the Air Force Squadron Officers School, Armed Forces Staff College, Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Air War College. Col. Griffin, who served more than 33 years, enlisted in the Air Force in 1948, and served at various locations in the United States, in Germany on the Berlin Airlift, in Labrador and in South East Asia. Among his numerous military awards and decorations are the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal. Upon his retirement from the Air Force in 1981, he joined Hercules Aerospace as an engineering flight test manager, retiring from Hercules in 1991. He was a life member of the Air Force Association, the Aerospace Education Foundation, the Odré Pour le Mérite, and the Retired Officers Association. He was inducted into the scholastic fraternities Eta Kappa Nu, Sigma Tau and Beta Gamma Sigma and was included in the "Who's Who in California" in 1988 when he was president of the California AFA. He died Jan. 3, 2004, in Tucson, AZ, at age 73.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Rosemarie Giacobbe, formerly of Washington, D.C.; his parents, Wiley T. and Iva F. Griffin, formerly of Hawthorne, NV; his two brothers, Wiley Griffin, formerly of Yuma, AZ and Larry K. Griffin, formerly of Hawthorne, NV. He is survived by his wife, Mary Goeser Griffin, formerly of Defiance, now of Tucson, AZ; his daughter, Cheryl Griffin (Charles) Lenosky and their children, Rosemarie and Alexander of Omaha, NE; his son, Robert (Cathleen) Griffin II and their sons, Patrick of Tucson, AZ and Robert Griffin III (Jennifer) of Omaha, NE; his great granddaughter, Valkyrie, and great grandson, Gabriel of Omaha, NE; brothers and sisters-in-law, Ed (Marilyn) Goeser of Harlan; Frank (Mary) Goeser of Omaha, NE; Leo (Janie) Goeser of Harlan; John Goeser of Defiance; Alice Goeser of Omaha, NE; Jim (Jan) Goeser of Harlan; Larry Goeser of Omaha, NE; and Deb (the late Paul) Goeser of Harlan.

His services were planned.