



## James William Gotcher

James William Gotcher Jr. (Bill), 79, retired Navy Commander, Businessman, Pilot and Professor Emeritus at Cal State East Bay, died quietly at his home in Hayward on July 04, 2012 after a 3 year battle with Cancer.

Born on December 05, 1932 in Lake Helen, Florida to parents Rosa Jones Gotcher and James William Gotcher. Bill received a degree in industrial Engineering from Georgia Tech University; After managing the family equipment manufacturing plant for some time, he decided to complete his graduate and subsequent PhD at UC Berkeley during the late 60's. Learning to fly and receiving his pilot's license at an early age created a love of flying and that carried thru a long career as a Naval Aviator as well as a Certified Flight Instructor, Bill taught his older son to fly and last flew with him in April of 2012. Bill was a very active member of many clubs and associations including: American Mensa, Experimental Aircraft Assoc., Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Mercedes Benz Club of America, Allegro Motor home Club, Cessna 170 Association, QB, Masons, and many more... He had a love of travel and had lived in several European countries and Hawaii as well as in California.

Survivors include his better half, Lorene Shane of Hayward, two sons: James William Gotcher III and his wife Stacey Lynne Gotcher of Discovery Bay and Keir Ansel Gotcher of Burbank CA, as well as one grandson, James Chance Gotcher of Discovery Bay. Bill was predeceased by his wife Sybil M. Gotcher in 1997.

The family is having a private ceremony on Friday; followed by a Memorial Service for all to attend held at 11:00 AM on Saturday July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Holy Cross Episcopal Church located at 19179 Center Street, Castro Valley, Calif. 94546. Jess C. Spencer Mortuary is taking care of the funeral arrangements located at 21228 Redwood Road, Castro Valley Ca. 94546 (510) 581-2861. Flowers may be sent on the morning of the service to the Holy Cross Church or in lieu of flowers, donations may also be made to the American Cancer Society or your favorite charitable organization.

***To All That Fly***  
*By John D. Duvall*

*May God grant you blue skies aloft, With winds of calm by land, As you play on the outskirts of heaven, On the fragile wings of man.*