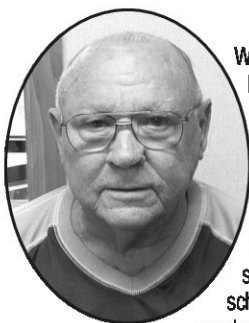


# Westbrook

## Featured Resident

### Walter Grayum



Walter Grayum was the second child born to Harvey and Mary Grayum. He was born at a hospital in Independence but the family resided in Oak Grove, MO. Walter grew up with his two sisters, Betty and Norma, and his brother, Pete. They lived in town and he attended school in Oak Grove. Growing up, he loved to play any kind of ball – softball was his favorite- and eat. He liked school and his favorite subject was math. He graduated from Oak Grove High School in 1951.

He attended William Jewell College in Liberty, MO, studying math and geography. However after two years, he joined the Marine Corp.

As a sophomore in high school, he met a young lady named Ann. They rode the school bus together and hit it off. They dated off and on and in December of 1954, they married. They had two sons, Walter and Henry.

Walter flew planes in the Marines and they were stationed at El Torro, CA, Cherry Point, NC, and in Hawaii. He retired from the Marines after ten years of service. They moved to Washington so that Walter could finish his Bachelor Degree in Math and Geography at the University of Washington. After graduating from college, Walter went to work for TWA as an airline pilot and moved to Kansas City, MO. He flew here in the US and overseas to Europe. He retired after 28 years of service.

Walter was gone much of the time as his sons were growing up. But they still found time to go tent camping a lot and they loved to go waterskiing. They traveled extensively. He's been to all fifty states and to five of the seven continents missing Antarctica and Australia. His favorite spot to travel to – the Grand Canyon. Besides his sons, Walter has nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Upon retirement, Walter and Ann built a house in Gladstone that he designed. They moved into it in 1992. In 1998, they moved to another house that Walter designed and had built in Blue Springs, MO.

Walter and Ann were very involved in the United Methodist Church. They helped with the high school department. They were very active in the United Methodist Committee on Relief. They were involved in housing construction here in the states and went at least ten times to Africa. Walter also flew planes with supplies and such for them as well as setting up an aviation division in Nairobi.

Ann passed away in 2004. Walter stayed in Blue Springs for a while but eventually moved to Marianville, MO.

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