



## Benjamin Light Rafftesaeth

May 12, 1932 - April 21, 2023

Benjamin Light Rafftesaeth, 90, of Gulfport, MS and formerly of Lebanon PA passed away on Friday April 21, 2023 at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport, MS. He was the husband of the late Keiko Sawai Rafftesaeth, who passed away in 1998.

Ben was born in Buffalo NY on May 12, 1932 to the late Marion Paul and Dorothy (Light) Rafftesaeth. He graduated from Univ. of Hawaii/Windward and John Harris High School. He was a 20-year US Air Force Veteran and then owner of businesses in Hawaii and Roswell, GA. Ben was a member of Hill Lutheran Church in Cleona. He enjoyed world travel, playing bridge, watching sports, good food, home upkeep and spending time with his family.

Surviving are his sons, Thomas Rafftesaeth Duke and wife Lyubov "Lulu" Avery Duke, Kenneth Paul Rafftesaeth, Grandson's Kevin Duke, Daniel Duke, Arseniy Avery and James Avery who live in the Atlanta area, Phoenix, Denver and Nashville. His brother, James Isaac Rafftesaeth and wife Patricia Rafftesaeth live in Cape May NJ.

Services will be held Monday, May 1, 2023 at 11AM at Hill Lutheran Church, 998 N. Mill Street, Lebanon, PA. Interment will be in Hill Lutheran Church Cemetery, Lebanon. The viewing is from 10am-11am and Service 11am-12pm followed by a Military Honors Ceremony at the church.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Chi Alpha Campus Ministries @ Tennessee Tech, donate at [www.chialphia.com](http://www.chialphia.com).



# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAY 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hill Lutheran Church  
998 N. Mill Street  
Lebanon, PA 17046

## Funeral Service

MAY 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Hill Lutheran Church  
998 N. Mill Street  
Lebanon, PA 17046

## Graveside Service

MAY 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

Hill Church Cemetery  
Cleona, PA