



George F. Etchberger

September 3, 1943 - June 18, 2026

George F. Etchberger, 82, of Myerstown, passed away on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at the Lebanon VA Medical Center.

Born in Lebanon on September 3, 1943, he was the son of the late Paul F. and Kathrine (Bennetch) Etchberger. George graduated from Bethel High School as Class President with the Class of 1961. He went on to serve in the Air Force during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He became a jet engine mechanic after learning the skills to work on USAF aircraft with four or more engines (B52F bombers and C-130 transporters) with PA Air National Guard; he served as a flight engineer on versions of C-121 aircraft that deployed worldwide. He had a reputation for not speaking negatively about anyone. In his later years he enjoyed gardening, working in his flower beds, trying to grow cotton in PA, cutting wood for the winter to keep the family warm, raising Bernese Mountain Dogs, and training wild or orphan racoons.

He is survived by his siblings: Russell L. Etchberger of Panama City, FL, Richard L. Etchberger of Shannon, IL, David P. Etchberger of Shamokin, Jeffrey J. Etchberger of Bethel, Gloria J. Marko of Lebanon, Mary L. Bashore of Myerstown, and Susan J. Freed of Palm City, FL. He was preceded in death by brothers: Jacob F. Etchberger and Paul F. Etchberger, Jr., and sisters Barbara A. Iceman, Rosanna M. Boltz and Carrie A. Graybill.

A graveside service with military honors will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. A funeral procession will form at 9:45 a.m. at Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home, 5 Camp Meeting Rd., Jonestown.

Cemetery Details

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery

Indiantown Gap Road
Anville, PA 17003

Upcoming Events

Graveside Service

JUN **30**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (DST)

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
Indiantown Gap Road
Anville, PA 17003

Tribute Wall

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“ I always looked up to George. I followed his footsteps and joined the U.S. Air Force the same day he was discharged from the AF at McGuire AFB NJ. He drove home through Philadelphia about the same time I was leaving Philadelphia Airport on my way to basic training. We often wondered how close we came to each other on that day.

George enjoyed deep conversations about anything. He had a reputation of not speaking negatively about anyone.

He expressed several times recently that he was saved and ready to meet his creator when it is his time.

I miss George and look forward to seeing him again.

Russell L. Etchberger - 3 hours ago