



## James Edward Dinley

February 14, 1939 - June 24, 2017

Colonel James E. Dinley II (Ret. USAF), 78, passed away Saturday, June 24, 2017 surrounded by his family at his home in Newnan, GA. Colonel Dinley was born February 14, 1939 in Ellwood City, PA to the late James Edward Dinley & Mildred Bruell Dinley. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Rosemary Dinley Simon.

Colonel Dinley graduated from McKeesport High School in 1957. He earned a bachelor of business administration degree in marketing and advertising from the University of Pittsburgh in 1961. He received a master's degree in education from Duquesne University in 1971. After a long and distinguished career in the Air Force, Colonel Dinley retired and began working as a manager in the cellular industry. Dedicated to serving others, he left the cellular industry and began a career as a city manager serving the cities of Sylvester, GA, Fort Oglethorpe, GA, and Sitka, Alaska.

The funeral Mass is 11:00 AM Monday, June 26, 2017 at St. George Catholic Church with Father Henry Atem officiating. Burial, with full military honors, is planned at Arlington National Cemetery. The visitation is Sunday evening between 6:00-7:30 PM at McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson St, Newnan with the Rosary service beginning at 7:30 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. George Catholic Church, 771 Roscoe Rd, Newnan, GA 30263.

Condolences can be expressed online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com)

Survivors include wife, Bernita Thompson Dinley; daughters, Danielle Dinley,

Deanna Keys; stepchildren, William Dowding, Katherine Dowding; grandchildren, Jessica Keys, Caroline Keys, Stephanie Zeiman, Jimmy Keys, Robbie Keys, Jesse Dowding, Travis Dowding, Hayden Dowding; numerous extended family and friends.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Avenue  
Arlington, VA 22211  
<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **25**. 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
[care@mckoon.com](mailto:care@mckoon.com)

## Service

JUN **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. George Catholic Church  
771 Roscoe Rd  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall

ML

“ *Tommie,*

*I am so shocked and sorry about Jim. My first thought was ygtbsm. I have many fond memories of working for and arguing with Jim at City and Borough of Sitka. He was quite a guy and he always spoke well of you.*

*My best to you and your family,*

*Mary Larsen  
Juneau, Alaska*

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**Mary Larsen** - July 04, 2017 at 05:19 PM

NN

“ *I wish to send my condolences to Jim's family. I knew Jim at North Side Elementary School in Ellwood City, PA where he was already excelling! In math class, students who had finished the day's assignment would then go to the blackboard to do it there to show the outcome. Guess who was always either first or second? That's right. He and Jackson Spielvogel would always hog the limelight in this way! I have several grade school class photos that show that he stood out by being one of the tallest in our class also! Oh, and Jackson was the other one. sigh*



*I haven't seen Jim since he moved to McKeesport, PA, but he is still very much in my memory. RIP Jim. Nancy Friday Neathery*

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**Nancy Neathery** - June 29, 2017 at 09:16 PM

CB

“ I worked with Jim here in Sitka and he provided great leadership and a steady hand on the rudder as we completed significant projects for the community of Sitka. I think I had the inside track as Tommie knew I was originally from Georgia and we got along very well, although I never did figure out the receptacle problem at their house. A wonderful couple and Jim will be missed. As a retired military member Jim and I often shared fun stories of the day and he appreciated the fact I was Coast Guard, as I reminded him often, someone had to stay behind to guard the women and children. God bless and rest in peace. Thank you for the decades of service you dedicated to make this world a better place.

*Christopher Brewton*

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**Christopher Brewton** - June 27, 2017 at 12:29 PM

DR

“ I echo the remarks of Col. Bob Defeo--I also was a ROTC student at Duquesne University under the Leadership and Guidance of then Captain Jim Dinley. He was so much more than just a Professor of Aerospace Science, he taught us so many lessons about life and success. The most vivid memories are ALWAYS sprinkled with his HUMOR. I was the first person to graduate from college in my family--that is in no small part due to Colonel (then Captain) Dinley's ability to keep life simple and not take everything so serious. He had an extraordinary ability to help younger students focus on the priorities in life. It has been an honor to know him throughout my USAF career. He was always available to spend some time in helping ANY of his cadets (and later Air Force Officers) to Aim High and in the Right Direction. He will live on in our memories and in the hearts of those he loved.

*Dave (Rat) Rauhecker, Col (ret) USAF*

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**Dave Rauhecker** - June 27, 2017 at 12:19 PM

BR

“ As the tax accountant and as part of the employee wellness committee, I would not only meet with Mr Dinley officially but also would pass him in the halls of the city building. He would always ask about my daughter whom he learned was working for the navy as an engineer. Although he was a tough administrator, i felt like i could always talk to him and would get a straight response and that i very much appreciated. My condolences to his family. May God bring you comfort and peace. Brenda Calkins

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**Brenda** - June 27, 2017 at 01:46 AM

NC

“ Jim was the city administrator of Sitka when I lived there and when I was on the City Assembly in fact I was on the assembly when we hired him. Jim was a man of integrity and principles. He was generous, willing to help many behind the scenes without attention to himself. He was a gentleman and a worker. He loved Sitka and it's people. He was absolutely the right man at the right time. He adored his wife and they were gracious hosts. He was a friend and a confidant. I admired his quick mind and ability to see the big picture. I will miss you dear friend. God be with you til we meet again.

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**Nancy Cavanaugh** - June 26, 2017 at 08:24 PM

BD

“ Col Jim Dinley was a great mentor and role model for myself and dozens of Air Force ROTC cadets a Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA when he served there. Jim guided many of us to successful careers and let us know he was looking out for his former cadets. Jim helped me in college with his guidance and later in the Air Force. He went way out of his way to assist me and others. I spent many hours with Jim at Duquesne and I deeply appreciate what he did for me and I just loved his sense of humor. A great human being who will be deeply missed by those who knew him. God Bless, Jim! Tommie and family, May you find peace and comfort in knowing just how much Jim meant to us. My deepest condolences on his passing. Bob DeFeo Col USAF (Ret)

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**Bob DeFeo** - June 26, 2017 at 05:02 PM

MI

“ The Colonel will be greatly missed by the staff here at Manning and Son. Thoughts and prayers for his wife and kids. Truly a great man!  
Mike & Alisha Manning

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**Michael** - June 26, 2017 at 09:38 AM

PF

“ I remember fondly Jim in our younger years growing up on Todd Avenue in Ellwood City,. May God pass peace over him and his family

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**Patrick (Mickey) Franus** - June 26, 2017 at 07:06 AM