

Robert W. “Mike” Fredrichs of Bella Vista, Arkansas, was born on January 1, 1934 in Eagle River, Wisconsin to Effa Altman and Carl F. Fredrichs. After attending [schools](#) in Clintonville, he graduated from St. Norbert College in de Pere, Wisconsin, majoring in Business Administration. He then enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After riding a destroyer for a year, he knew he wanted to fly. He became a Carrier Pilot, an ISO Officer, and a Flight Instructor. He proudly served 24 years in the Navy. While stationed in Long Beach, California, he met Gloria King of Tulsa, Oklahoma. They were married for 52½ years. She was with him for 18 years of his Navy life, living in 14 cities in 8 states, and they became proud parents of Kirk and Kelly. He retired in 1978 as a Commander. He then became Director of Aviation at the Johnson County, Kansas, Industrial and Executive Airports. In 1998, after many visits over the years to Bella Vista, they moved again so Mike could enjoy more golf. He was also a member of St. Bernard’s Catholic Church, The Knights of Columbus, and the American Legion. He also volunteered for various activities including Meals on Wheels. When his [emphysema](#) forced him from his activities, he so missed his golf buddies, the poker guys, and his many card friends. He struggled hard with his disease but lost the battle on February 10, 2014, at the age of 80. He is preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and a sister. In addition to Gloria, he leaves his son, Kirk of Verona, Wisconsin, and his daughter Kelly, her husband, Joe Proctor, and his beloved grandchildren, Kelsey, Lindsey, Jake, and Macy Proctor of Overland Park, Kansas. He is also survived by his brother, Pat Fredrichs and his wife, Susie, of Marble, North Carolina, along with many nieces and nephews. Services will be held at St. Bernard Catholic Church on Thursday, February 13th, 2014 at 10 a.m. In lieu of [flowers](#), the family requests donations to Circle of Life at Legacy Village (1201 NE Legacy Parkway, Bentonville, Arkansas 72712), a beautiful group of people who gave him so much caring, love and support in his final year. Donations may also be made to St. Bernard Church (1 St. Bernard Lane, Bella Vista, Arkansas 72715).

