



Matt Andrew Engel

August 26, 1947 - February 10, 2025

Matt Andrew Engel, 77 of Orlando, FL passed away peacefully on February 10, 2025. Matt was born in Philadelphia, PA to Beatrice and Harry Engel on August 26, 1947. Matt grew up in South Florida where he attended and graduated from Palmetto High School, class of 1965.

Matt pursued a Civil Engineering degree at Purdue University in West Lafayette, however, just shy of graduation, he realized Civil Engineering was no longer his passion and returned home to Miami to join the US Coast Guard as a diesel mechanic. His new endeavor took him to far away places; West Coast of the United States, Alaska, North Pole, Florida Keys, and then back to Miami where he was assigned to guard President Nixon's house on the coast.

After his service in the coast guard, Matt developed an interest in aviation and pursued a career as an air traffic controller at both Miami Center and Miami Tower and then became a pilot for Trans Air Link where he flew cargo planes transversing the Caribbean. Then in 1991, Matt relocated to Orlando, FL working for AirTran Airways and later Capital Cargo. Finally, upon retirement, Matt decided to keep busy working part time teaching Hazardous Materials Shipping training for all land, sea, and air shipping. This was where he was affectionately given the nickname "HazMatt."

Matt enjoyed life to the fullest and was not afraid to embrace speed and

adventure. His hobbies and passion included thrill seeking, high power, high performance toys! As a daredevil starting at age 14 he got his first motorcycle and was thrilled to add in true form to his passion a Donzi powerboat, a sailboat, airplanes, a 1967 Pontiac GTO, multiple Porsches and a variety of Triumph and BMW motorcycles throughout his life.

Those who knew Matt will remember him for his infectious smile, his deep-rooted love of aviation, and his unwavering commitment to being with his son, Curtis, who like his Father shares the same thrill-seeking passion. He had a rare gift for making others laugh with his witty remarks, his unwavering dinner schedule, and never holding back his true thoughts.

Matt is survived by; His son Curtis and siblings Karen, Lisa, and Bradley.

The celebration of life to honor Matt Andrew Engel will be held at A Community Funeral Home on February 21st, 2025, at 3pm. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Although Matt's physical presence may no longer grace our lives, his spirit will continue to inspire and uplift us. May his memory be a blessing, and may we carry forth his legacy of love and compassion in all that we do! Matt, your life will forever shine brightly in our hearts.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 21. 4:00 PM (ET)

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations
910 W. Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 841-4424
<https://www.acommunityfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

JB

“ So sorry to learn of Matt's passing. As a fraternity brother at Purdue, I still tell my children and grandchildren about the time he took in his plane to visit a relative on Marathon Key for homemade key lime pie. And the other time he took me up in a stunt plane to experience a vertical stall, barrel rolls and the reason for air bags. RIP Matt.

Jared Bryan - November 26, 2025 at 12:27 PM

TM

“ Matt and Curtis joined this motly crew on many two wheel Sunday rides. Those were great days and remain some of my fondest memories. My deepest condolences to you and your family Curtis.



Toni Benfatto Moore - February 21, 2025 at 03:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Matt Andrew Engel.

February 20, 2025 at 03:06 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



February 20, 2025 at 03:06 PM

RM

“ Rick McConnell purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



Rick McConnell - February 20, 2025 at 01:56 PM

WM

“ With Love & Deepest Sympathy, Bob & Mary purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



With Love & Deepest Sympathy, Bob & Mary - February 20, 2025 at 11:30 AM

JL

“ Joe and Karen Laird purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



Joe and Karen Laird - February 20, 2025 at 11:26 AM

LJ

“ Love, Candido & Jenn purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



Love, Candido & Jenn - February 19, 2025 at 09:01 PM

DS

“ DRG Technical Solutions planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Matt Andrew Engel.

DRG Technical Solutions - February 19, 2025 at 09:09 AM

DS

“ DRG Technical Solutions purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



DRG Technical Solutions - February 19, 2025 at 09:09 AM

GB

“ Gary & Gail Balnicki purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Matt Andrew Engel.



Gary & Gail Balnicki - February 18, 2025 at 09:19 AM