

J. MARTIN SNIDER

1921 - 1984

J. Martin Snider, age 63, a former Elkton resident, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 29 in Ocean Springs, Miss. following massive heart failure.

He was born March 25, 1921 in Detroit to Martin and Frances (McGillivray) Snider, both former Elkton residents. He spent his boyhood in Detroit, Bad Axe and Elkton, graduating from Elkton High School in 1938. Following graduation, he attended Central Michigan College studying Civilian Aviation. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in January, 1942. He graduated in September, 1942 from the Air Force Advanced Flying School at Brooks Field, Tex. as a bomber pilot. He made 83 missions as a fighter pilot in the invasions of Italy, Africa and Sicily during World War II. He received, among other medals, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal and the air medal with Four Leaf Clusters.

After the war he attended the University of Detroit Dental School, graduating in 1950. He practiced dentistry in northern Michigan for three years, then re-entered the U.S. Air Force. He retired in 1975 with the rank of Lt. Colonel. He and his wife, Margaret, made their home in Ocean Springs, Miss. after retirement. They were frequent visitors in Elkton for many years.

He is survived by his widow; four sons, Kenneth, C.H. and Michael of Ocean Springs, Miss. and Tim of Oklahoma; several grandchildren; a sister, Alice Louise Hall of Grosse Pointe Woods and a brother, Robert J. Snider of Baldwinsville, N.Y.

His parents, a sister, Loreen and a son, Patrick, preceded him in death.

Cremation took place with interment and graveside services at the Biloxi VA National Cemetery in Biloxi, Miss. on Thursday, March 8. Plans are being made by his brother, Robert, and friends to hold a short memorial service at the Elkton Riverside Cemetery during the Memorial Day weekend.