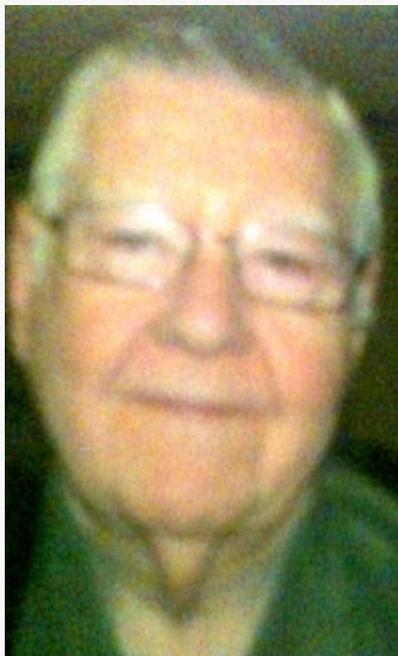


## Watts, Jack D. | 1936-2017

*Published Wednesday, February 15, 2017*



Jack Watts

Jack D. Watts, 80, of Benbrook died Monday, Jan. 30, 2017, in Fort Worth.

Jack was born May 10, 1936, in Vernon to Alvie and Nell Watts. He married Mary Helen Watts who preceded him in death April 25, 1983.

Upon graduation from Texas Technical College, Jack began his professional career in June 1958 at Convair (which became General Dynamics and is now Lockheed Martin's Fort Worth division).

While working on the F-111 program, Jack developed the basis of a highly effective and revolutionary algorithm for a weapons delivery system, which was an industry first. Not only did this system go on to win numerous weapons competitions, it is also still in use today on both the F-16 and F-35. The balance of the aircraft industry has never duplicated its sophistication.

Jack was chief engineer responsible for the design and development of the F-16's legendary air-to-ground delivery system. From the spectacular and successful Israeli attack on an Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981 through Operation Iraqi Freedom and beyond, Jack's innovations helped the F-16 achieve its reputation for being the world's most accurate air-to-ground fighter in aviation history.

Throughout his career, Jack was involved in every aspect of air-to-ground weapon delivery system engineering from development of the initial algorithm to the final flight test analysis. Jack was one of a select few individuals who could claim to have had a profound impact on products that are a vital part of our country's national defense today.

Jack retired from Lockheed in 2003 after 45 years of continuous service, having worked on the B-58, F-111, F-16, A-12, IDF, F-22, T-50 and F-35 programs.

Jack's many travels included Bermuda, Spain, Italy and Alaska. Jack enjoyed life and loved his family and friends. He is survived by his sister, Linda Watts Lantz of Bridgeport; and other special family members and friends, Don, Vivian, Teresa, Paul, Leon, Adyrus, Cathy, Terri, Bob, Chad, Lisa, Steve, T.J., Tim, Bobby, Dale, Sharon, Vera, Diane, Jennifer and Kelly.