

JAMES MONROE COTHRON

1922 - 2018



JAMES COTHRON Obituary

Cothon, James Monroe, 95, of Tampa, formerly of St. Augustine, passed away at home with his family at his side. An aviator and artist, he earned his new set of wings May 1, 2018. James was born August 23, 1922 in St. Augustine, to William and Agnes Cothron. His career as a pilot spanned over 60 years. He started out as a crop duster, but his love of the water and flying soon merged into a new career as a seaplane pilot. His special planes were the Grumman Goose and the Mallard. James flew for many companies over the years, including Antilles Airboats in the Virgin Islands, and Chalk's International out of Miami, where he was shot by two men after refusing their request to take them to Cuba. In his later years, he flew as a corporate pilot for Goose Aviation. His art work is coveted by family and friends. James is survived by his wife of 40 years, Frances; son, Douglas Cothron; daughter, Clarise Schwartz; 3 step-children, Monica Melton, Stephen Elliott, and Sirina Elliott. He was also blessed with 4 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. James always said that if you like what you do, you will never have to work for a living. James' soul is in the sky and always has been.

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