



Ralph Emerson Lewis
Airman 3/C U.S. Air Force Reserve
17 January 1951 – 16 January 1954

Ralph was born on 9 May 1931 in Nutley, Essex County, New Jersey, to **Bruce Mosher Lewis** (October 1906 – 20 October 1994) and **Ernestina (Carson) Lewis** (14 November 1908 – 18 January 1943), while the family was living at 19 Prospect Street. Ralph attended Spring Garden Grade School in Nutley and graduated from Clark High School in Hanover, New Hampshire, in June 1949. He then enrolled in Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. On 17 January 1951, during his sophomore year at Bucknell, Ralph enlisted in the Air Force Reserve for three years at Headquarters, 1st Air Force, Mitchel Air Force Base (AFB) in New York. On 16 July 1951, he was called to active duty and was assigned to Olmstead AFB in Middletown, Pennsylvania, where he underwent training for and served in Air Traffic Control. In January 1952 he was sent to England where he served in the U.S. Movement Section, Air Traffic Control, for the 1969th Airways and Communications Squadron (AACS), initially in Ruislip, England, for two months, followed by Uxbridge, England, where he was assigned from March 1952 until his return to the States for released from active duty on 16 January 1953 at McGuire AFB, Trenton, New Jersey. He then served the remaining year of his three-year enlistment in the Air Force Reserve until 16 January 1954, while resuming his studies at Bucknell University. In May of 1954, he married **Katherine Bolte** (28 April 1934 – 15 May 1975) in Frederick, Maryland. In 1955, he graduated from Bucknell with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. Ralph and Katherine initially lived in Nutley and subsequently lived in Westwood, New Jersey, and North Palm Beach, Florida, while Ralph worked as a trainee in marketing for Standard Oil of New York in Englewood, New Jersey, from 1955 to 1963, and then in Brooklyn, New York, as Marketing Manager until 1970. He then left Standard Oil and went to work for Mobil Oil Corporation as Marketing Manager in Pennsylvania, initially in Chalfont, and then in Philadelphia until his retirement in 1992. Katherine passed away in 1975, and was interred in Westlawn Cemetery in Clifton, New Jersey. Ralph lived in Chalfont at 27 Hickory Lane from 1970 until 1983, when he moved to 2778 Rolling Green Place in Lower Macungie, Pennsylvania. Ralph married Kathleen Reinbold Lewis on January 20, 1983, in Allentown. In 2007 they moved to 5758 Tavistock Lane in Lower Macungie, where they presently reside. Ralph and his first wife, Katherine, raised seven children: **Kimberly May**; **Cheryl Ann**; **Donna Lynn**; **Bruce Fredrick**; **Cynthia Lee**; **Kristina Gail**; and **James Bolte**. Bruce and James also served in the armed forces, Bruce in the Army from 1976 to 1979, and James in the Army from 1987 to 1991.