

Staff Sgt. (Retired) Clifford Elee Vigil Sr., U.S. Air Force

GERONIMO — Funeral mass for retired Staff Sgt. Clifford Elee Vigil Sr., Geronimo, will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church with the Rev. Joseph Ross, pastor, officiating .

Vigil passed away Sunday, Oct. 6, 2013, in Geronimo.

Burial with full military honors will be at Post Cemetery, Fort Sill, under direction of Lawton Ritter Gray Funeral Home.

Rosary service will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home chapel led by Willie Meria.

Clifford was born March 21, 1931, in Velarde, N.M., to Juan D. and Epemenia Gutierrez Vigil. He grew up in New Mexico, where he attended school. He married Frances Romero on July 29, 1949, in Santa Cruz, N.M. Clifford joined the U.S. Air Force in 1951, serving in the Korean Conflict and Vietnam. He received numerous awards and medals including the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Medal, and the Air Force Longevity Service Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters. After his retirement on Nov. 30, 1974, he was a farmer and raised cattle and pigs and grew all types of vegetables and fruit. He enjoyed fishing. He and Frances moved to Geronimo on Dec. 16, 2012. He attended Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Frances, of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law: Clifford Vigil Jr. and Cindy Vigil, of Geronimo; and Julio and Isabel Vigil, of Belen, N.M.; four grandchildren: Joey Vigil, of Belen; Jenny Vigil, of Wichita, Kan.; Antonio Vigil, of Lawton; and Tammy Vigil, of Geronimo; and his great-grandson, Jason Vaughn.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and two daughters: Laura Vigil and Christine Vigil.