



## Ira Miles Gross

October 20, 1922 - December 14, 2020

FORT WORTH - Ira Miles "Mike" Gross passed away peacefully at his daughter's home with family by his side on Monday, Dec. 14, 2020.

He was born Oct. 20, 1922, in Brooklyn, N.Y. to Katherine and David Gross. Growing up in Bay Ridge where he attended high school he went on to attend the University of Alabama School of Engineering obtaining a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. In 1943, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps where he was commissioned a 2nd Lt. Prior to deploying to the European Theatre, he married his childhood sweetheart, Rose Griffin, on Oct. 22, 1943.

He had a distinguished military career spanning various campaigns to include Africa, European Theatre, D-Day and the liberation of Buchenwald and Leipzig. His medals earned were the North Africa Campaign Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, the National Defense Medal, Two American Campaign Medals, the Air Force Longevity Service Award and 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Distinguished Unit Citation with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Crew Member Badge and the American Defense Service Medal.

He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1963 and settled in Fort Worth, Texas with his family. He became the Chief Safety Engineer at Carswell AFB before leaving for Bell Helicopter where he became the Manager of Safety, Fire Protection and Health before retiring in 1983. Most of Fort Worth will remember him for the 20 years he did as the Channel 11 Weatherman in the DFW area, The Mike Gross Weather Report. He formed the Safety Engineering Consulting Company in 1983 and was an expert witness for 22 years officially retiring at the age of 82. His Civic duties were just as distinguished. He was part of the initial standup of the Fort Worth Air Power Council, the Fort Worth Civic Leaders as well as the Order of the Daedalians. He was also a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit at Eagle Mountain Lake. But I will say his greatest accomplishment he held till he departed was his great honor to serve his country. He was the last of the few remaining WWII Veterans. He wore his hat so proudly everywhere he was.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 73 years, Rose; his parents; and his older brother.

Survivors: He leaves behind a loving family of eight children, Jody McCabe, Tom and Felicia Gross, Beth and Tony DeRosa, Mike and Leslie Gross, Debbie and Tom Hughes, Jim and Julie Gross, Donna and Greg Coontz and Rosie and Mark Sury; as well as 18 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

A private service will be held at Greenwood Memorial Park at a later date.

# Cemetery

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## **Greenwood Mausoleum**

3100 White Settlement Road

Fort Worth, TX, 76107

# Comments

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“ I remember talking to Mr. Gross at their house once. I was on a committee with Mike for our senior class stuff. Mrs. Gross was cooking something yummy & she let us taste it. It was some kind of dessert & it was good. Mr. Gross was the weatherman on Channel Eleven News for awhile. He asked how my dad was doing and I said fine. He said that he bet my dad got lots of phone calls when school was postponed because of the weather. I said, "Yes he does but I bet you get more since you have to report the weather! But don't feel bad because when that happens every kid at CHS yells Hooray!!! He laughed and said, "I'm going to remember that next time I have to do that. Thanks! "He laughed again, got some of what his wife was cooking & went to another room to eat it. He was a wonderfully funny and kind man. My husband Joe and I send our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the whole Gross family. Thanks for sharing your parents and y'all's home with so many CHS kids. Sincerely, Joe & Vicki Carver

**Vicki Barnes Carver** - January 09 at 03:26 PM

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“ Mike and family I always enjoyed watching your dad on TV and thought it was cool that I knew "the weatherman's" son! I know he was way more than that, my condolences to you all.  
David Melville

**David Melville** - December 21, 2020 at 08:41 AM

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“ Mike and family, I was sad to hear of your Father's passing. I know how hard it is to think that we can't go to them for their advice. Prayers and hugs sent to you all. Mike know that your CHS '71 friends are here for you and hold you in their prayers.

Barbara Green Turner

**Barbara Green Turner** - December 20, 2020 at 03:09 PM