



**A moment of silence, known as “the silent key” was heard by the amateur radio community on June 11, 2018. Gary D. Elliott, K7OX, an amateur radio operator for over 65 years, passed away peacefully in his sleep.**

Gary was born to William and Ruth (Cartwright) Elliott on December 19, 1937 in Woodbury, New Jersey. As a young man, Gary had a paper route winning numerous prizes in contests promoted by the paper and was carrier of the month. He was only fifteen when his love for amateur radio was sparked by watching one of his friends fathers, Warner Thompson communicate with “the world”. Mr. Thompson gave Gary his first listening radio which motivated him to save his paper route money to buy his first ham radio from the Army surplus store. He received his amateur radio license at the age of 15.

In August 1955 at the age of 17 Gary entered the Navy. In boot camp the recruits completed aptitude testing. Gary’s radio and electronics experience placed him on the short list to enter into the newly created communications and intelligence program. He completed radioman’s school with excellent marks. Where ever Gary was stationed he obtained that countries ham licensure, holding call signs from many countries. He was promoted numerous times during his time in the service, completed a BA in Business, and spent the Vietnam War on Navy Subs completing classified missions. He retired from the Navy in 1975 after 20 years of service.

Gary married the love of his life, Barbara on December 23, 1979, her 3 children joined his son in a ready-made family. After retiring from the service he had joined the FBI as an investigator until 1980 when the desire to return to the Phoenix Arizona area, where he had lived as a child, led Gary and his family to Scottsdale, AZ. Their youngest child was born in 1981 completing their family of his, hers, and ours. He spent the next 19 years working for the City in Phoenix, as the police department's communication supervisor. He retired in 1999 leaving Arizona to build their dream home on 12 acres of land SW of Spokane, Washington. Gary continued to be involved in ham radio, contesting, holding field days, and was a co-founder of the Spokane DX club. He loved passing his knowledge and passion for amateur radio on to others and was a mentor to many.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents: William and Ruth Elliott, brothers Jack and Glenn Elliott and his grandson Chandler. He is survived by his wife, Barbara (Drum) Elliott and 5 children; daughter Angela Felker MacCabe and husband Duane; son David Elliott, daughter Christine Logan-Travis; son Scott MacKaben and wife Morgan; and daughter Jennifer Elliott. His beloved grandchildren include: Michael, Travis, Logan, Tristin, Charlie, and Elodie who delighted in Gary's Donald Duck voice and frequent "checks of their knees". A dear and gentle soul that will be missed by all.