Redelsheimer, Sigmund Marvin 87, longtime resident of St. Louis County, died September 15, 2016 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House in Scarborough, Maine. Born in Jacksonville, Florida, he moved at an early age to Columbus, Georgia where he graduated from Jordan Vocational High School in 1946. Shortly after graduation he joined the U.S. Navy and in 1947 was selected for a Naval ROTC scholarship at Auburn University.

He majored in Aeronautical Engineering and was a member of Phi Kappa Tau social fraternity, of which he was president his senior year. He was also a member of the Scabbard and Blade Military Honor Society, Steerage Naval Honor Society, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honorary, and Blue Key Service Honorary. Upon graduation and commissioning in 1951 he was assigned to the U.S.S. Robert A. Owens DDE 827, aboard which he served until released from active duty in May, 1954. In September of that year he enrolled as a graduate student at the California Institute of Technology and received his Master's degree in Aeronautics in June of 1955. He was hired by McDonnell Aircraft Corp. and did research in high speed aerodynamics for three years. In 1958 he was assigned to the nascent space studies at McDonnell and was instrumental in the conceptual design of the nation's first manned spacecraft, the Mercury. For the next 29 years he worked on numerous space programs including Air Force Gemini B, NASA Skylab, numerous confidential government programs, was Program Manager of the Space Shuttle Aft Propulsion Subsystem built by McDonnell and retired in 1987 as Director of Space Programs for the St. Louis division of McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company. He was a charter member of Forest Hills Country Club in Clarkson Valley, Missouri, an active member of the Grace Methodist Church choir in St. Louis in the 1960s and '70s, and later was active in a local chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Sig was predeceased by his wife, Shirley, in February 2016, after which he moved to Falmouth, Maine. He is survived by: three children from his first marriage, Sigmund Mark of Las Vegas, Nevada, Carol Leigh of Yarmouth, Maine, and Miles Bruce of Otter Creek, Maine; two granddaughters, Katrina and Elena, who reside in the San Francisco Bay Area of California; and his beloved goddaughter Rebecca Turner Riggs of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. Services: A memorial service at the SCHRADER Funeral Home and Crematory, 14960 Manchester Road at Holloway, Ballwin, Monday, September 26, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the St. Louis Symphony, St. Louis Zoo, Missouri Botanical Garden, or the Auburn Alumni Association. Memorial visitation at the FAMILY CENTER at Schrader Funeral Home, Monday, Sept. 26, 2016 from 11 a.m. 1 p.m. followed by interment at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. Family requests that if able for friends and veterans to attend the committal service. Friends may sign the family's on-line guestbook at Schrader.com.