



Alvin "Al" Freeman Gilbert

July 2, 1944 - August 24, 2020

Alvin Freeman Gilbert passed away on August 24th, 2020. Al was born July 2, 1944 to Carl and Dorris Gilbert and spent his childhood in Newnan, Georgia. He was a 1962 graduate of Newnan High School and a 1966 graduate of the University of Georgia. He worked in the building supply industry and co-owned his own business for many years.

Al is survived by Susan Gilbert, his wife of 43 years. He took pride in creating unlimited opportunities for his children, Melissa Gilbert (Scott Newton), Justin Gilbert, and Andrew Gilbert (Brittany) and allowed them the chance to study, explore, and travel the world. Few things gave him as much joy as his three grandchildren, Asher, Karli, and Norah. He is also survived by his brother Carl Gilbert Jr., his aunt Aldine Askew, and his niece, nephews, and cousins.

Al loved his church family and served as an elder First Presbyterian Church in Peachtree City and The Summit Church in Fayetteville. He was currently a member of Fayette Presbyterian Church. He was an avid fan of the Georgia Bulldogs and could be found at Sanford Stadium on many Saturdays. He served on the Fayette County Planning Commission for over 30 years and was proud of his perfect attendance as a member of the Fayetteville Rotary Club. He coached his children's baseball, basketball, and football teams and was a strong supporter of local sports. He loved fishing, crossword puzzles, and sharing cookies with his grandchildren.

As we look at Al's life, may we be reminded that the most beautiful and miraculous moments perhaps come from the simple pleasures that we enjoy each day and connect us with those we love. An afternoon of fishing, the treat of ice cream, or the excitement of a college football game reminds us to slow down and appreciate the simple blessings that surround us every day. In the wise words of Mr. Rogers, "How many times have you noticed that it's the little quiet moments in the midst of life that seem to give the rest extra-special meaning?"

A private family service will be held to celebrate the life Al lived.

In lieu of flowers, the family lovingly requests that expressions of sympathy be made in Al's name to The Calvin Center at Calvincenter.org or to the Fayette Presbyterian Church, 791 Forrest Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at <http://www.mckoon.com>.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Cemetery

Oak Hill Cemetery

96 Jefferson Street

Newnan, GA, 30263

Comments



“ I grew up in Newnan knowing Al as a friend and classmate from 1950 to 1962. I also enjoyed seeing Al at Class of '62 reunions in the '70's and later. I joined Newnan Presbyterian in 1956; served as Elder at Temple Terrace FL Presbyterian ('79-'82), graduated from CTS in 1985, and finally served as ordained minister in the Birmingham AL 1985-94. (The ultra-conservative atmosphere was hardly a good fit for me, after my first career as college teacher and psychotherapist.) I retired in 2009, again living in Newnan to which my family and I returned in 1997. I now live in Savannah with my spouse Douglas Curry- my wife Sue died in 2014, and Doug and I married in 2015. We share some 50 "grands"-4 kids, 46 or more nephews and nieces.

When Al and I were classmates (1950-'62), I believe he and his family were members of First Methodist, across Greenville St from my home church. But I seem to recall that Al and I were both members of Scout Troop 41, sponsored by First Methodist. My father was a Methodist, and used to tease me about "crossing the street from the Blue Stockings to the Just Good Folks" church.

So I was surprised but pleased to see that Al became a dedicated Presbyterian in P'tree City and Fayetteville, lending support to the Calvin Center.

I have good memories of the Center, having attended my first Young Pastors conference there c.1988 (at a youthful age of 43), as well as a Youth Retreat or two in the early 2000's after I returned to Newnan Presby as an advisor to the Youth Group.

Al was a good friend as we grew up in Newnan, and I'm happy to contribute to the Center in his honor.

Note- These memories originally shared with the Calvin Retreat Center, Hampton GA.

JANNAR W DAVIS - September 03, 2020 at 03:31 PM



“ My condolences to the family. Al will be missed by many. His devotion to do the best thing for his community in Fayette made him a pleasure with whom to serve on the Planning Commission. He was always fair and willing to listen to all viewpoints in workshops and hearings. I could always count on Al for an honest and informed opinion even if it varied from mine.

Al was also a fellow Bulldog and his loyalty to the team was amazing. Even in the Alabama rain debacle where we got pummeled at Sanford Stadium and were obviously out of the game by halftime, his positive outlook remained and there was no way we were going to leave early, despite the torrential rainfall in which we sat.

Rest in peace Al. The meeting here is adjourned and the eternal meeting we Believers look to in certain hope now has your presence.

Tim Thoms - August 31, 2020 at 11:31 AM



“ It has been an honor to have worked with Al Gilbert for the past thirty years on the Fayette County Planning Commission. I will miss his wisdom and insight, but mostly I will miss his friendship.
Pete Frisina

Pete Frisina - August 27, 2020 at 05:56 PM



“ As a County employee I had the opportunity to work with Al through his service on the Planning Commission for many years. Al served the community well and was always upbeat, open minded, and gave fair consideration to the items before the Board. It was a pleasure working with him and I am thankful for all he did to make Fayette County a better place. He will be missed.

Phil Mallon

Phil Mallon - August 27, 2020 at 02:05 PM



“ Al was someone I considered a friend. He was critical to the Dawg Post community from the start. It is terribly crushing news to hear this. I spoke very briefly with his wife on Wednesday night to confirm the news.

I spoke with Al a lot over time about a lot of different stuff. I usually kept him on the phone for too long. He was passionate about Georgia. Later in life it was more and more difficult for Al to go to games, but he made it as often as he could. I do wish I would have called Al lately just to check in.

Al was also active in his community. He served on the Fayette County Planning Commission for 30 years. I have experience in municipal government, and I will tell you that only someone as patient as Al could take that sort of abuse for three decades. But we need people like Al who are willing to do the hard and often thankless work needed for communities to move forward.

This is tremendously sad.

Al was one of the first people I let know that Dawg Post, and more importantly our community, would be leaving our previous home and independently publishing online. I remember the last time I spoke with Al was about something that was going on with our community, and I wanted to ask his advise. He was supportive of me and our community the entire time. I am thankful that Al was such a good friend for what was nearly 20 years - or all of the time I have worked professionally. I could not have achieved success over the last 20 years without people like Al being human enough to help me along the way.

Al Gilbert was important to me, and I am sad that he is gone. But I will remember all of the times he helped me, and I am grateful for him.

Dean Legge

Dean Legge - August 26, 2020 at 09:23 PM



“ Sonny: I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your brother. I never really knew him as well as I did you and your mom and dad. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of the family. May God comfort you and help you to find peace at this time.

Mary Elizabeth - August 26, 2020 at 09:22 PM



“ Oddo Brothers CPAs purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Alvin "Al" Freeman Gilbert.



Oddo Brothers CPAs - August 26, 2020 at 06:08 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alvin "Al" Freeman Gilbert.



August 26, 2020 at 01:24 PM



“ Al was always ready with a smile and a joke. It was my pleasure and an honor to have known him and have been a member of the Summit with him. God bless you Al.

Ronald Thomas - August 26, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ We are very sorry to hear of Al's passing. Susan, we have found memories of our years together at First Pres. I esp remember when Melissa was born and how proud Al was! God be with you, Doug and June Gunden

June Gunden - August 26, 2020 at 09:54 PM



“ The many Holiday gatherings with the Williams, Wilson's and Gilbert's in Tucker. We would eat and visit and snack and talk. Lots of picture taking and delicious left-overs. I remember talking football with Al, many times, and how superior his Dogs always were over my Yellow Jackets. God Bless my Cousins

Todd Wilson - August 26, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ So sorry to learn of Al's passing. As a neighbor of Al Gilbert and his wonderful wife Susan and their family for over 28 years he will be missed. Mr. G and I spent many a Saturday watching college football and having a few cold ones over the years, and of course arguing about his Dogs and my Canes. I will miss those times very much. My daughters Lisa and Annette also remember those great times visiting Al and Susan while his children and mine were growing up. Rest in peace old friend until the day we can once again banter about college football.

Paul and Judy Paulicelli

Paul L. Paulicelli - August 26, 2020 at 06:38 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Alvin Freeman Gilbert.



August 25, 2020 at 07:08 PM