



R. Alex Davis

August 15, 1928 - August 22, 2024

Rederick Alexander "Alex" Davis Jr. entered heaven on August 22, 2024. He was never known as Rederick, but as Alex, Alex Jr., R.A., or Colonel Davis. Born in Athens, Georgia on August 15, 1928, the third child of Lollie Dial Davis and Rederick Alexander Davis Sr., Alex Jr., he graduated from Athens High School in 1945. He attended University of Georgia for one year and then enlisted in the United States Army. Following his tour of duty, he attended Southern Technical College on the G.I. Bill. After graduation, Alex enlisted in the United States Air Force and attended flight school with future astronaut Buzz Aldrin. Lt. Davis flew the F-84 fighter plane in The Korean War with over 70 combat flights.

Upon returning from Korea, Alex married Evelyn Faye Barry on December 6, 1953. The couple lived in Albany, Georgia, where Alex worked as a corporate pilot. R.A. joined the Georgia Air Guard and served in the Guard for over 20 years, becoming a full Colonel. R.A. began flying for Eastern Airlines and had a 31 year career in commercial aviation, where he made lifelong friends connected to the airlines. In 1960, he purchased a farm on Emmett Young Road and began building his dream home in Coweta County. In 1967, the Davis family moved from East Point to Newnan, Georgia, and lived in a barn for 1 year while their home was constructed. The new home Alex built was totally electric and supplied with three-phase power to accommodate Alex's welders, air compressors, and other equipment.

As a State employee, Col. Davis was asked to be the State's pilot for Governor Carl Sanders from 1963-1967. Active in his community, Alex was a member of First United Methodist Church in downtown Newnan and a board member of The Heritage School, where he participated in a variety of activities. R.A.'s mandatory retirement from the airlines at the age of 60 began an adventurous time of life, including motor homes, airplanes, and new friendships. Alex loved a "good deal" and filled his back pasture with a random collection of cars, farming equipment, and other assorted materials. His "junk", included a 4360 engine from a C-124 military transport aircraft. Alex's vision was to plant a peach orchard and use the engine to keep frost from destroying the crop,(the engine still rests in the pasture) but the plan made sense to Alex.

A consummate southern gentleman, Alex always had a smile on his face and a kind word on his lips. He loved his God, his family, and the beauty of the world. His friends were from all walks of life, including mechanics, loggers, truck drivers, bankers, and doctors. Alex will be remembered for his ability to pray in a strong voice, always giving thanks and asking to be a better child of God.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Florence Davis Culbertson and Ann Davis Wilkinson. Alex is survived by his wife of 71 years, Faye Barry Davis; son, Barry Alexander Davis Sr.(Allison); daughter, Donna Davis Dougherty(Matt); son, John Paul Davis(Angela); grandchildren, Carly Davis Winstead(Josh), Ashley Davis Boland(Jay), Matthew Paul Dougherty(Rachel), Barry Alexander Davis Jr.(Katelyn),Cameron Ann Berry(Frank), William Chandler Davis, Katherine Davis Blasio(Andrew), Caroline Davis Shutley(Michael), Laura Ashburn "Lollie" Davis; great grandchildren, Annie Glenn, Davis, Mary "Mae" Margaret, John Allen, Reeves, Jackson, Caroline, Isobel, Barry III, Daniel, Frank Jr., and Bobby; sister-in law, Ann Barry Daughtry and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

A private family interment will be held Saturday, August 24, at Forest Lawn in Newnan, Georgia. A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, August 25, 2024, at 2:00pm at Newnan First United Methodist Church with the Reverend Dr. Jim Ellison, niece, the Reverend Susanne Daughtry Fatigati, and the Reverend Andrew Chappell officiated, followed by a reception in The Parrish Hall.

The family would like to express appreciation to Mindy Rowan, Suzanne Bryan, and Shawn Newson for their comfort and care.

Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Previous Events

Funeral Service

AUG **25**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Newnan First United Methodist Church
33 Greenville Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall

GG

“ Since I left Newnan I have been out of touch, but I just found out about the passing of a good friend and super gentleman Alex. I flew many trips with him on the 727. He was one of the most professional pilots that I flew with and I tried to emulate him when I became a captain, but doubt if I succeeded.

To his family my heart goes out to you and may he rest in peace.

Gil Gilbert

Montrose, CO

Gil Gilbert - December 23, 2024 at 12:06 PM

KM

I am so sorry to report that the Cantwell/Myers families did not learn of this news until a few days ago. We were reminiscing about our gatherings at the Davis home just a few days ago. The food, company and fun activities (riding go carts, motorcycles and the like around the property) were tons of fun! I can even recall a potato gun shooting potatoes in the air! Mr. Davis always gave us some peanuts to take home and we enjoyed roasting them and making peanut butter. We will cherish those memories and your family's kindness. The smile on Mr. Davis's face is forever etched on my heart and in my mind. His kindness, compassion, love of God and family was so infectious. With love and sincerity,

Kelly Myers - September 29, 2025 at 03:53 PM

GG

“ My "Uncle Alex, Jr" was one of a kind. His friendships were important to him. His children and grandchildren were treasures to him. Aunt Faye was his beloved wife. He was a child of God! He told me when I was very young I had relatives and garments, I said NO and cried.

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Glynda Gardner - September 19, 2024 at 08:38 PM

BO

“ We were so very sorry to hear about Alex. We send our humble condolences and sympathy. I flew several flights working with him as a flight attendant for EAL. He was always such a gentleman. He also was very strict about flight attendants knowing emergency procedures on the aircraft. He would question each of us.

Sincerely,
Greg Burgess
and
Bonnie (Crosby) Burgess

Bonnie - September 03, 2024 at 11:40 AM

CE

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Alex's passing! My thoughts are with all of the family! So many great memories from church activities and the 'wild bunch' and big deals on bulk Delta items. He will be missed!



Carla Williams Fowler and Eddy - August 25, 2024 at 10:03 PM

SH

“ I remember being in the yard with my daddy, Walker Horne, working one afternoon and this truck came pulling up loaded with watermelons. Mr. Alex got out and was talking to my dad and told him to get a melon. He had been to south Georgia and had bought a load and was driving around and giving them to friends. It really impressed a teen age boy that he would do such a thing. Bet he was a great dad!

Scott Horne - August 25, 2024 at 04:38 PM

LE

“ Laura E. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of R. Alex Davis.

Laura E. - August 24, 2024 at 07:45 PM

TF

“ *The Shutley Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of R. Alex Davis.*



The Shutley Family - August 24, 2024 at 01:27 PM

DS

“ *Debra, John and Aunt Sue planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of R. Alex Davis.*

Debra, John and Aunt Sue - August 24, 2024 at 01:23 PM

JE

“ *Thank you for all you did in your life and in your church. I have many fond memories of youth groups and Easter Egg Hunts on your property. You will be missed. Joan Exner*

Joan Exner - August 24, 2024 at 01:00 PM

CM

“ *"Col" Davis and I share MANY memories. I flew with him at Eastern many times and flew the inaugural to Panama with him. We shared a love of collecting "irreplaceable" relics for future generations to enjoy.*
Steve McDonald

Capt. S.S. McDonald - August 23, 2024 at 08:47 PM

SC

“ *So sorry for your loss. May God's comfort surround you.*

Sherri Westberry Carlson - August 23, 2024 at 06:51 PM

LS

“ Louie & Shelley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of R. Alex Davis.

Louie & Shelley - August 23, 2024 at 06:37 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of R. Alex Davis.



August 23, 2024 at 06:37 PM

PH

“ I know one character that happily greeted him when he went through those heavenly doors!

Peggy Hall - August 23, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of R. Alex Davis.



August 23, 2024 at 03:13 PM

SH

“ Sharon A Hannah lit a candle in memory of R. Alex Davis



Sharon A Hannah - August 23, 2024 at 01:05 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of R. Alex Davis.



August 23, 2024 at 12:51 PM

BP

“ I always admired Alex for his optimism and love for his family. He adored Faye the same way my Father adored my Mother. He set the perfect example of devotion. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Bill Parker - August 23, 2024 at 11:53 AM

JR

“ Mr. Davis was one of the best men, I have ever known. Harry always said he was the best and respected pilot at Eastern. The love, he had for “his Ms. Davis” was an inspiration. Hugs and love to his family.

Judy Rivers - August 23, 2024 at 11:08 AM

PB

“ Here is to the last of “The Romeos”. For years we ladies played cards and on those days our hubbies had lunch at Sprayberrys. They were “retired old men eating out “Puts a smile on my face. Good memories. Pat Burns

Pat Burns - August 23, 2024 at 10:50 AM

GW

“ Faye and family, I am thinking of you at this difficult time. May a lifetime of memories comfort you.



Geraldine Welch - August 23, 2024 at 08:41 AM

SN

“ Shawn Newson lit a candle in memory of R. Alex Davis



Shawn Newson - August 23, 2024 at 08:18 AM

BH

“ Alex Davis is the kindest and most caring man anyone could ever meet. He has been a Gift to so many during his Lifetime. Blue Skies Always Alex, Brad Hyatt

Brad Hyatt - August 22, 2024 at 06:06 PM

TJ

We will all miss Alex who gave so much to everyone. All the good times on trips to Germany were many fun memories. Rest in Peace, you set the bar high as role model.

todd jennings - August 23, 2024 at 09:01 AM

GP

“ *Gerrie Petty lit a candle in memory of R. Alex Davis*



Gerrie Petty - August 22, 2024 at 05:49 PM

JW

“ *Joy Williams lit a candle in memory of R. Alex Davis*



Joy Williams - August 22, 2024 at 05:34 PM