



Sherman Franklin Venz

June 11, 1933 - June 2, 2019

Sherman Venz, 85, of Helena, AL passed away peacefully at his home Sunday, June 2, 2019 surrounded by his family and loved ones. Born June 11, 1933 to Carver and Emma Venz of Bessemer, AL he was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, J Dean Gilbert and his beloved wife of 59 years, Martha Venz (Tapper). He is survived by his daughters, Pamela Venz (James Alexander) Birmingham, Teresa Venz-Williamson (Ken) Vestavia Hills and Susan Doss (Floyd) Fultondale; his brothers, Edward Venz (Virginia) Bessemer, and Donald Venz (Nancy) Lake City, FL and his sister, Faye Martin (O'Dell) High Springs, FL, as well as seven grandchildren: Colin and Sean Alexander, Kyle and Brody Williamson, Phillip and Adam Doss, Brittany Noojin (Casey); one great granddaughter, Amelia Swann and many nephews and nieces.

A veteran of the United States Naval Medical Corps, Sherman completed his Bachelors of Science Degree in 1960 from Howard College, now Samford University (Birmingham) and earned his Masters of Arts degree in Management and Supervision: Health Care Administration in 1979 from Central Michigan University. Beginning with a year long internship in medical technology, 1959 - 60 at Lloyd Noland Hospital in Fairfield, AL. Sherman spent the following twenty-eight years at Lloyd Noland rising to the positions of Laboratory Manager and Chief of the Lloyd Noland School of Medical Technology. Under his leadership the school was recognized as an

outstanding program drawing students from across the state. In 1990 Sherman became the Laboratory Manager for Bessemer Carraway Hospital, now UAB Medical Center West, where he continued his legacy of quiet yet strong leadership and excellence in teaching until his retirement in 2004. More than just an employer, Sherman is lovingly remembered as a teacher, mentor and friend to the hundreds of students he inspired to follow his path and to the many former colleagues who fondly refer to him as "The one who invented laboratory medicine."

Devoted to his family and a man of deep faith, he and Martha raised their daughters in an atmosphere of high expectations tempered by humor, love and grace while teaching by example how to live a moral and ethical life. They celebrated with joy the accomplishments of their daughters, opened their hearts to their sons-in-law, mentored their nieces and nephews, and loved beyond measure their adored grandchildren and great grandchild.

With heavy hearts we say goodbye to our Daddy, our Brother, our Father-in-law, our Granddaddy and our Uncle. We are comforted by the knowledge that he is reunited with our mother in the loving arms of God.

An active member of the Parish of Saint Aloysius Catholic Church in Bessemer, his funeral mass will be held Friday June 7, 2019 at Saint Aloysius Catholic Church at 12:00 noon with burial following at Valhalla Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until service time.

Tribute Wall

PV

“ Rest in peace, my sweet Daddy happy with Mom in the arms of God.

Pamela Venz - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

RF

“ We are sorry for the lost of Sherman. We pray God will give each of you His comfort and strength.

Robert & Judy Fuller - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

SM

“ Great Uncle Sherman was someone who made you wonder “How can someone be this happy all the time?” Thank you for imprinting this on me, and living a life of example and family.

Sarah Martin - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

JO

“ What a sweet man. He and Mrs Venz were very special to me growing up. My love to Susan, and your entire family.

Jocinda - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

GD

“ Sherman was one of a kind - even though I worked in a different department, I learned so much from him as he was an outstanding leader who handled himself with such class and dignity. More importantly, Sherman was an amazing person who was so selfless and caring. He will be missed.

Gannon Davis - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

KB

“ I worked with Sherman at Medical West for his entire time there. He was a great leader, a kind man, a guy who worked well with his team. I am sad to learn of his passing. To all his family""Sherman was so loved and respected. God bless."

Kim Bullock - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

BW

“ I remember so well the year Martha and Sherman and daughters took Wayne and I and our three boys to the zoo. What a wonderful memory with great cousins.

Bonnie Wood (Wayne Wood) - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

PH

“ When my dad and Susan got married, I gained another set of grandparents and a wonderful set they were. Even though I wasn't blood the to of them took me in as one of their own. I'm so thankful to have had the pleasure of the two of them in my life and even though I love and miss them both I know they are together happier than ever in heaven. I hope that When it's my time to go they are waiting at the gate so I can get one more hug.

Phillip - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM

JB

“ *My dear cousins... Pam, Teresa, and Susan. We were saddened when my Mom and Dad told us that your dad was sick. I will always remember Sherman’s warm smile and sense of humor. I last saw your Mom and Dad at Dale and Dianne’s wedding in Panama City and before that at our own wedding. Even though we had not seen your mom and dad in recent years, I will always remember them as my Uncle Sherman and Aunt Martha and will miss them. My Gods love be with you and your entire family. -Jay and Belinda Breidenbach*

Jay and Belinda Breidenbach - September 17, 2021 at 10:53 AM