



Bruce Eugene Berger

December 31, 1941 - September 4, 2020

Bruce Eugene Berger was born on December 31st, 1941 in Tampa, Florida and spent his early years in Haines City getting into mischief with his favorite cousins. As an air force brat he traveled the world, eventually making his longtime home in Tallahassee where he raised his daughters and was the quiet rock for his entire family. He passed away on September 4th, 2020 surrounded by loved ones in Tallahassee, Florida.

Bruce lettered in several high school sports in France. He graduated from Paris American High School in Paris, France in 1959. He enlisted in the United States Army at age 17, serving during the Cold War as a cryptographer. He received his sharpshooter badge, achieved the rank of sergeant, and served as a platoon leader.

After an honorable discharge from the US Army, he returned stateside to attend Jacksonville University. At JU, he was a member of Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity and the homecoming court. Upon graduating from JU he passed his C.P.A. exam on his first try. After working for a large Jacksonville accounting firm he became the Comptroller for Mobile America. Later moving to Tallahassee where he was a longtime State employee and retired as the bureau chief of Banking & Finance for the Department of Financial Services.

He was a proud father, raising two daughters with his wife Shirley. He loved

boating with his girls, teaching them to swim and waterski. They spent a lot of time on Dog Island and took long family vacations to see American landmarks. He adored his two grandsons. There was nothing he loved more (even more than buying new cars) than attending their baseball games.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Bette L. Berger, father Ernest G. Berger, and his beloved cat Piewacket. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Shirley Ann Renfroe Berger, daughters Kerry Elizabeth Berger and Tracy Lynn Thomas, grandsons Harlan Harris and Holton Harris, sister Barbara Berger Bumgarner (Barry), brothers Michael Berger (Teresa), and Thomas Berger (Melanie), brother in law Keith Renfroe (Calista), and numerous nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held on Thursday September 10th, 2020 at Bevis Funeral Home at 10am, followed by a celebration of his life at 11am. Funeral Services will be live streamed at <https://www.bevisfh.com>. To watch click on the word obituaries at the top of the homepage; then click on the Bruce Berger; then the green photos and video tab. Staff members will be available to answer questions or help with technical issues at 850/385-2193. Interment will follow at 1pm at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Nature Conservancy; The Parkinson's Foundation; or the ASPCA.

Rocky Bevis of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Berger family with their arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Tallahassee National Cemetery

5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Funeral Service

SEP 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Burial

SEP 10. 1:00 PM (ET)

Tallahassee National Cemetery
5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Tribute Wall



“ *Bevis Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Bruce Eugene Berger*



Bevis Funeral Home - September 10, 2020 at 09:31 AM



“ *We were so very sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. He was such a loving part of your family and we know he will be greatly missed. We wish we could have been there to honor him and to celebrate his life with you. We pray for God's comfort and peace for your family during this difficult time. Love, Bill and Karen Nobles*



Bill and Karen Nobles - September 11, 2020 at 11:38 AM



“ *No words can describe how sorry I am for your family loss. As well as for those who had the opportunity to know him, may our memories of Bruce continue to be cherished. Ms. Shirley, may the care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days ahead. Christine Moore*



Christine Moore - September 10, 2020 at 10:14 AM

LB

“ *Our hearts are heavy, but we are grateful and thankful for the memories of Bruce’s leadership in the Office of Budget and Fiscal.*



Lynita Mack Bell - September 10, 2020 at 09:33 AM

VP

“ *Bruce and Shirley were wonderful neighbors on Trescott for many years. We send our thoughts and sympathy to Shirley, Kerry, and Tracey and families. Tom and Vivian Pelham*

Vivian and Tom Pelham - September 09, 2020 at 11:40 AM

KR

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Kris, Brian, Ubie, Donna, Gene, Kirby, Amanda, Cheryl purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Bruce Eugene Berger.

Kris, Brian, Ubie, Donna, Gene, Kirby, Amanda, Cheryl -
September 09, 2020 at 07:06 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bruce Eugene Berger.*



September 08, 2020 at 05:33 PM

MS

“ I'm not sure "Santa" would have gotten those bicycles assembled correctly if not for Bruce's help. There was always his smile to greet us when we would see him. I'm very glad I got to know him. Mary Summers (formerly Renfroe)

Mary Summers - September 08, 2020 at 02:52 PM

GA

Bruce was my first cousin. Our mothers were sisters. Bruce was the oldest boy. I think he must have been treated like a special gift. He named GaGa. And we all followed. She is still called that 32 years after her death. But when Bruce could say "grandmother" he changed her name. But he didn't tell anyone. Anyway, he thought that was funny. That is the subtle humor he thought was brilliant. Could be. He was a little enigmatic. Not easy to read. He suffered his own pains quietly, and celebrated his successes quietly. He found a million dollars improperly spent by the State folks, maybe more. He helped General Bob Milligan look good as Comptroller, taking no credit. We will long remember him for his quiet gifts of love and inspiration. My condolences to his family, Shirley, Kerry, Tracey, Barbara and all the children. God needs to change the rules, extend the minimum life term to 90, then put us on notice. God speed Bruce Berger.

Gabe Ayala - September 09, 2020 at 09:03 PM

PA

God is good today you walk the streets of gold no more pain and feeling the love you took with you from all of us you were a very special man and wonderful friend to all of us I grew to love you from our start My heart will never be the same but you will always be such a part of it till we meet again I love you Buddy

pam - September 10, 2020 at 11:46 AM