



## Mr. Jerry Leon Bennett Obituary

November 4, 1938 - August 26, 2013

Jerry L. Bennett died Monday, August 26, 2013 at Magnolia Manor Nursing Home. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at Kimbrell Stern at 11:00 AM with visitation starting an hour prior to the service at 10:00AM. Rev. John Spence will officiate.

Born in New Madrid County, MO, Mr. Bennett was a 1961 graduate of the US Naval Academy. He was a pilot in the Air Force, served in the Vietnam War, where he earned the Bronze Star. He loved history as well as the St. Louis Cardinals. Jerry was of the Baptist faith.

Survivors include two sons, Ed Bennett (Sue) of Albany and Keith Bennett (Lisa) of Panama City Beach, FL, two daughters, Leah Bryant of Albany and Lori Gregory (Bruce) of Midland, TX, one sister, Lila Osby of Memphis, TN, his mother, Nell Bennett of New Madrid, MO, nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Alzheimers Association of Georgia, 41 Perimeter Center East, Suite 500, Atlanta,GA 30346.

You may sign the guestbook and share your thoughts with the Bennett family by visiting our website at [www.kimbrellstern.com](http://www.kimbrellstern.com).



# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors  
1503 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

## Memorial Service

AUG 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors  
1503 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Jerry Leon Bennett Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. Jerry Leon Bennett Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. Jerry Leon Bennett Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Helaine and I want to express our deepest sympathy to the entire family. Jerry was a great guy and a complete amazement to me throughout our time at the Academy, and I am sure it took both he and Paul Moses, aka, twitch, the good part of a year to understand the lingo of a kid from the heart of Boston. I was always entertained by his take on the war of Northern aggression. I may be mistaken, but I think Jerry still holds the Academy record for most time on the swim squad, and when he finally passed his one mile swim test, the entire Brigade rejoiced. He will be missed, and be in our thoughts often.*

*We will drink a toast to him at the memorial service.*

*Ernie*

Ernie Moreno - Savannah ,, GA - USNA roommate - September 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ On behalf of the U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1961, I extend our deepest sympathies to Jerry's family on his passing. He was a proud member of the Class of 1961 & will be missed, especially by his company mates in the 23rd Company. Jerry will be remembered at a Memorial Service held as a part of our next Class Reunion.

*With deep respect,  
Bob Denis  
Captain, USN (Ret)  
Class of 1961 Corresponding Secretary*

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**Bob Denis - Toano, VA - USNA Classmate** - September 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ I love you dad. I will miss you until I see you again. I know you are at peace now. that's what is getting me through this. that is what has given me some sort of peace too. I will always be your little girl and proud of it.

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**lori bennett gregory** - September 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Although we knew Jerry for a short time we learned he was a remarkable person and that he had served his country with great honor. We thank him for his service.

*With Sympathy,  
Morningside of Albany*

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**Marlene Godwin - Albany , GA** - August 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ It has been a life time since we were boys and our dads and other family members went to Southeast Asia the spring of 1966. I had a seen your dad through the years when we would both be in Missouri. Although those times were few, he held a special place in my life. But what I will always treasure is the Christmas your family shared with my dad in the Philippines when he could not be with us. I am so sorry for your loss.

With deepest regards,

Steve

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**Steve Greene - London, OH - Cousin** - August 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ I was one of 4 German Air Force student pilots undergoing USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training at Craig AFB, Alabama with Jerry Leon Bennett.

Very early on in this training program Jerry started having a more personal connection with the "Krauts". A deep friendship developed; after graduation I and friend Wilhelm von dem Knesebeck (a name which proved to be a slight tongue-twister for Jerry) followed him to his parental home in New Madrid, MO and spent some time there with him and his family.

Jerry also was the only classmate who later, while on a duty trip to Berlin/ Germany, successfully tried to contact one of us German guys.

I had the unforgettable chance to meet Jerry at his final home in Americus/GA while travelling with my wife Dianna from Texas to North Carolina. Also present at this get-together was son Ed Bennett. My wife and I are extremely glad to have had this chance. Our deepest and sincerest sympathy to Ed, his brother and sister and all their families and, above all, Jerry's Mom who is blessed with a long life which, however, means that she has to endure this tragic loss, an event even more painful at such age.

Adi Obersteller, LtCol, Luftwaffe, retired

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**Adi Obersteller - Mesquite, NV - Classmate USAF Pilot Training** - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ Jerry and I were roommates for 55 weeks as we began our careers in the United States Air Force. We began flight training together on July 15, 1961, both fresh out of four years of college. Jerry was a Naval Academy graduate and I graduated from Rutgers. Despite our dissimilar backgrounds, we hit it off well together and I do not think we ever had a harsh word or disagreement. Our paths parted after graduating and we did not get back together until 36 years later. It was like we had never been apart. Jerry had a great career in the Air Force and was a veteran of the Viet Nam war where he flew C-130s. He was a true friend. Jerry will be sadly missed by me and all of us who earned our wings with him during that year in Selma, Alabama.

Walter C. Hersman  
Brig Gen USAF (Retired)  
Class 63A, USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training (1961-1962)

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**Walt Hersman - Sanford, NC - Air Force friend** - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ We were students at Craig AFB receiving our pilot training. Living in the same barracks.

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**Alex Graham - crystal bay, NV - Students in pilot training** - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Didn't meet Jerry until he moved to Albany, just a short while ago, but it only took one introduction to know he'd be someone you wanted to get to know better! What a delightful conversationalist, sharing many interesting stories about his past in the military. A proud American who served our country well! Thank you, Jerry!! His passing is a reminder we all have to pass this way one day...trusting God to give His Peace, Strength, Love, Comfort, whatever is needed the most, to family members who will miss Jerry...blessings to you all!*

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**annlies and carey cato - albany, GA - friends** - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM