



## Leon Victor Zalenski

January 23, 1934 - March 8, 2024

Leon Victor Zalenski, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, minister and friend, passed away on March 8, 2024. He was a decorated military veteran who served in the United States Air Force 21 years. He then continued his life of service as a minister of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. He served as a pastor of two smaller churches and for the past 43 years served on the ministerial staff of Gardendale First Baptist Church.

He was passionate about his faith and his family. He cherished his wife Jewell, his three daughters, his two sons-in-law, and his three grandchildren. He was a provider, a protector and a pillar for his family. His family was his greatest treasure this side of heaven.

He was a relentless prayer warrior who spent many hours of his life interceding on behalf of others. His greatest desire was to love Jesus and share Jesus. He was a servant of Christ and considered it his greatest honor in life to serve the Lord Jesus and all the individuals that God placed in his path. He certainly has heard God, the Father, say, "Well Done, Thou Good and Faithful Servant".

He is survived by three daughters, Phyllis Zalenski, Rose Mary (Rob) Martin and Elizabeth (Scott) Wilson; three grandchildren, Rob Martin Jr., Rebecca

(Kirkland) Manville and Matthew Wilson; sister, Rita Bogdan and a host of other family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Jane Zalenski; his wife, Jewell C. Zalenski and his sister, Ann Bankowski.

Funeral services will be Monday, March 11, 2024 at 2:00 pm at Gardendale First Baptist Church. The family will receive friends on Monday from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the church. A private interment with military honors will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at the Alabama National Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Alabama National Cemetery

3133 Hwy 119  
Montevallo, AL 35115-8632  
(205) 665-9039

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 11. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale First Baptist Church  
316 Mountain Crest Pkwy  
Gardendale, AL 35071  
(205) 631-8791

## Funeral Service

MAR 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale First Baptist Church  
316 Mountain Crest Pkwy  
Gardendale, AL 35071  
(205) 631-8791

# Tribute Wall

RB

“ *Pastor Leon was a devoted man of God. He loved all people and shared Christ and His love and salvation plan to everyone he met. He would pray with or for someone anywhere he was. He was not ashamed of Jesus Christ. He was always thinking of others and how to help and encourage them. He continued to do even when his physical body wasn't. But, that was his passion for Christ and love of people motivating him on to work for Him. Now, free from all pain and suffering, he is walking the streets of gold with God the Father and his beloved Miss Jewel. Singing praises to the Lamb for ever more. He is home!*

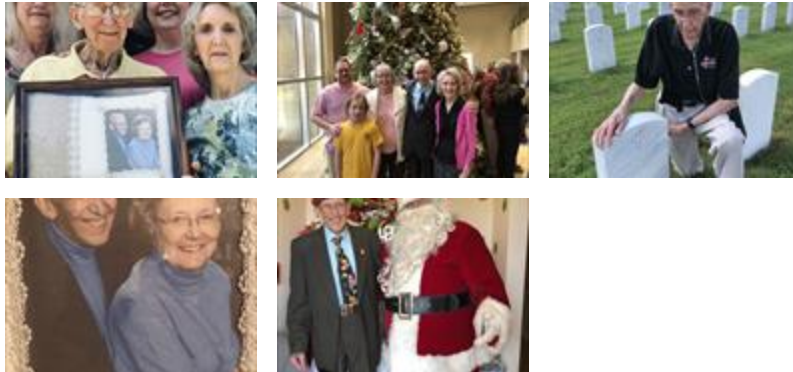
*Love,  
Regina and Alan Burgett*

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**Regina Burgett** - March 11, 2024 at 12:07 PM

 Rob  
Martin

“ *10 files added to the album Family Photos*



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**Rob Martin** - March 10, 2024 at 01:55 PM



“ Several people have asked so sharing for those looking.  
The three charities he requested were <https://www.alabamachild.org/give>, The GFBC Mission fund, and  
<https://www.guidestone.org/mission-dignity/>

*These are the charities he requested in lieu of flowers. Thank you.*

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**Rob Martin** - March 09, 2024 at 09:11 PM



“ Barb, Danielle, Vera, Kelsey planted a [a Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leon Victor Zalenski.

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**Barb, Danielle, Vera, Kelsey** - March 09, 2024 at 10:37 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Leon Victor Zalenski.



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March 09, 2024 at 10:37 AM



“ Phyllis and Family, you are in my prayers as you celebrate the life of your dear father! We care for you!

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**Barbara Swanson** - March 09, 2024 at 10:26 AM

CB

“ *Very Godly and caring  
Man of God. He will be missed. Charles and Willodean Bentley of  
Gardendale, Alabama*

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**Charles and Willodean Bentley** - March 08, 2024 at 05:40 PM