



Calvin E. Burtner

June 30, 1925 - September 28, 2020

Calvin E. Burtner, 95, of Royal Oak, September 28, 2020.

Loving father of Brenda (Gerald Barton) Freeman of Royal Oak. Proud grandfather of Alan (Carrie) Freeman and Mark (Latetia) Freeman, and great-grandfather of Abbigail, Madelyn, Piper, Haley and Alex. He was preceded in death by his wife, Irma, in 2018, and his son, Douglas, in 1974.

Calvin was a proud World War II veteran who served in the Pacific as a tail gunner and navigator. Closer to home, he was very active in his car clubs (Oak Leaf Model A's and American Austin Bantam) and enjoyed volunteering his time with others in the clubs.

Visitation will take place Sunday, October 4, from 2 - 8 p.m. at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd., Royal Oak (4 blocks east of Woodward). Per executive order, visitation room limited to ten people at any one time. A private funeral service will be held, with burial to follow at White Chapel Memorial Cemetery in Troy.

Please share a memory on the Tribute Wall at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

White Chapel Memorial Cemetery

621 W. Long Lake Road
Troy, MI 48098

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 4. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Tribute Wall

RR

“ I am very sorry to hear about Cal's passing. He and Irma were our neighbors in Pompano Beach, Florida. They would always share about the cars Cal was showing and pride in their family. I loved visiting them when they would return year after year. I was sad when they were unable to return, but tried to keep in touch by email (through Irma). Although I lost touch with Cal after Irma's passing, I thought of him often. They were a very special couple. I will always treasure their friendship and love.



Rita Russo - November 17, 2020 at 11:31 PM

JS

“ Sorry to hear of Mr Burtner's passing. I rode the bikes over there with Mark a time or two. Both Mark & Alan enjoyed a lot of time with him growing up. And when I was a schoolkid his father lived in the Wyandotte house

Jeff Stormer - October 05, 2020 at 09:30 PM

BP

“ I met Cal via his neighbor and friend Brian. Our mutual interest was the Army Air Force, in which he and my father served. What a fascinating man Cal was. As a materials scientist I was fascinated with his garage and metallurgical creativity. In tribute to him, I offer "In High Flight" by John Magee:



*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air . . .*

*Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or ever eagle flew —
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.*

*Rest easy Cal. You are not forgotten.
Bob Powell*

Bob Powell - October 03, 2020 at 06:04 PM

MT

“ So sorry for your loss Brenda. I was just thinking about your folks the other day. Stay safe and healthy. Mike Thornton

Mike. Thornton - October 01, 2020 at 10:09 AM

JQ

“ We were hoping to see Cal this summer at the Oakleaf Model A round up but missed out due to it being cancelled by the pandemic. We haven't seen Cal and Irma since the early 90's but they were a good influence on us when we lived in their neighborhood. Last week I was reading a book called "Bomber Boys" which had me thinking about Cal. Some of the stories in the book were about tail gunners in WWII and I remembered Cal telling me a little about his experiences as a tail gunner in WWII. The other thing I remember about Cal is he was absolutely the most talented person I ever met when it came to building, fabricating, fixing, diagnosing anything mechanical. He was something else when it came to working on old cars. Plus he was a heck of a nice guy.

*Jim & Yvonne Quinlan
Foley, Alabama*

Jim Quinlan - October 01, 2020 at 09:39 AM

JS

condolences to Brenda and Gerry , and Mark and Alan and their children.....Sad to hear& 95 is a wonderfully long life

Jeff Stormer - October 04, 2020 at 09:58 PM

LC

“ *Lisa Clemons lit a candle in memory of Calvin E. Burtner*



Lisa Clemons - September 30, 2020 at 06:09 PM