



Jerry F. Bentley

September 17, 1934 - December 5, 2014

Jerry F. Bentley ended his journey on December 5, 2014. During his passing he was surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Jane; his daughter Laurie Bentley of Albuquerque, NM and his son Rick Bentley and wife, Apryl of Datil, NM. He is also survived by his step-children Jeremy Bridge and wife, Petra, of Albuquerque, NM and Jessica Coulson and husband, Brian, of Boulder, CO. Jerry had seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. Laurie's children Christian Bentley Gallegos, Malach Bentley Gallegos, Moriah Bentley Gallegos and Ariana Bentley Gallegos of Austin, TX, and Rick's children Michelle Bennett of Hampton, VA and her son Jamie Fultz; Judith Dirmeyer and husband Sam of Datil, NM, Anthony Bentley of Albuquerque, NM, and great-grandson John Dirmeyer. Jerry shared in the lives of Jane's grandchildren, Jeremy's son David, and Jessica's children Gavin, Julia, Corbin and Hayden Coulson. Jerry is also survived by his former wife, Judith Bentley of Albuquerque, NM. Jerry was born in Perrin, TX on September 17, 1934. His parents, both deceased, were Clyde and Alma Bentley of Arlington, TX. Jerry had two brothers, Dan Bentley, deceased, of Denison, TX, and George Bentley and wife, Bobbie, of Dallas, TX. Jerry graduated from Arlington High School in May 1953. He served in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1958 as a paratrooper and medic. He graduated from Texas A&M University in January 1963. Jerry worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from 1961 until his retirement in 1998. His career took him and his family to National Fish Hatcheries in Arizona, New York, New Mexico,

Oklahoma and Alabama, Area Offices in Missouri and Texas, and the Regional Office in Albuquerque, NM. Jerry enjoyed playing racquetball with his wife Jane. They played in many tournaments across the country, including the Senior Olympics. He also enjoyed fishing, camping, traveling, old cars and collecting Matchbox cars. Jerry was a member of the Albuquerque Old Car Club, the Silver Shufflers and the New Mexico Racquetball Association. He was a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church. Jerry was loved by many. His children Laurie and Rick thought he was a wonderful dad and cherish their remarkable childhood. He will be greatly missed. Memorial Services will be held on Saturday, 11:00 a.m., December 13, 2014 at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 9100 Manual NE, Albuquerque, NM. Ennichement will be at the Santa Fe National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, you may make a donation to the Salvation Army 4301 Bryn Mawr Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102 or Gentiva Hospice of Albuquerque 3350 Riverwood Parkway, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30329.

Cemetery Details

Santa Fe National Cemetery

Santa Fe, NM

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC **13**. 11:00 AM (MT)

St. Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Menaul Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM

Tribute Wall

“ Jerry Franklin Bentley, born 17 September 1934 was my dad. He was the 2nd of 3 sons born to Clyde Hubbard and Alma Fay Duke Bentley.

I remember many stories of Dad. I will tell you about 3 of them. He taught me to use tools and work on cars. I remember when our late 1970's Chevy Caprice stopped running and needed a new fuel pump when we lived in Round Rock, TX at the time . I was not home, but dad could not fix the fuel pump, and he finally had to get the car towed to a garage. Well, when it was towed, the fuel dripped in a line across the lawn, killing the grass. So that line was there in the grass for a couple years at least, if I recall. I think that was when dad stopped doing most repairs on his cars. It has stuck with me all these years. I'm not quite to that point yet working on my cars, but I am getting there.

And then there was the '54 Pontiac. Dad tinkered with it most all of my life. Dad would take me to junkyards where he would get parts for it. I believe when we moved from OK to AL, and his dad, Clyde was tasked to make a tow bar for it. Well, he welded 2 big ol' chunks of metal to the chrome bumper, totally ruining it. Dad was quite upset, and he never did quite let that go. But I rode w/ Dad in the Pontiac when we moved, and he stopped at some 5 & dime store and bought a plastic plane with a movable propeller, that I stuck out the window and the prop turned in the wind. I had a lot of fun, and the trip went by fast.

And the 3rd is about bubble gum. Now dad did not usually spend money on snacks or treats very often when we were kids, he had to pay for other items no doubt. His one treat though was Wrigleys Juicy Fruit gum, in the yellow package & wrapper. But one day dad called Laurie & I into the carport/garage at the fish hatchery in Marion AL, and gave the two of us several pieces of bubble gum. We chewed them up and then he had us give him the chewed wads of gum, which he stuck into holes that had been bored into the 2x6 studs..... holes bored by carpenter bees I think. I distinctly remember the bees trying to push their way thru that wadded up gum, but it was no use, they were stuck & could not get out. For all I know, that gum may still be there.

He was a good dad, and grandad, as all will attest to. Dad died Friday, 5 December 2014. He was 80 years old. We will miss him. Thank You, Rick Bentley, son of Jerry.

Rick Bentley - December 13, 2014 at 05:41 PM

BH

“*Jane & Family, We were saddened to hear of Jerry's death. I recall so many fond memories of being with you and Jerry and they are all good. He was such an outgoing and friendly person and will be truly missed. Jane, you are a special person in my life and we shared many, many laughs and good times when we worked together and I continue to cherish all those times. Work, picnic preparations, the great parties at you and Jerry's place, all of these I include as special times in my life. I regret I can't attend his celebration of life as I am out of state at the time. My prayer is that you will continue your outstanding life without Jerry's physical life with you. Savor all your wonderful memories of your guy. You were a great team and I know you will make it through this time of sadness and continue in your always positive manner. Our sincere condolences to you and all of you and Jerry's family. Always an old friend, Bill Hawthorne and Pam.*

bill hawthorne - December 12, 2014 at 08:57 PM



“*Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Jerry F. Bentley.*



December 12, 2014 at 01:02 PM



“ 9 files added to the album Memories Album



FRENCH Funerals & Cremations - December 11, 2014 at 04:00 PM

NB

Wow! Love those photos. Proud reminders for those of us who grew up at different fish hatcheries!

Nita Brenholdt - February 04, 2015 at 08:59 PM

DH

“ *Jerry was such a pleasant soul, and always had a smile. We have so many fond memories of Racquetball and the Senior Olympics. A group of us would meet at different eating places, and whenever we went to Furr's, Jerry always had two or three desserts. Maybe that helped him to have such a sweet nature. We will miss him greatly. Rest in peace dear friend.*
Dean and Linda Harvel

Dean and Linda Harvel - December 10, 2014 at 10:35 AM

LB

Thanks for the memories. I'm so thankful I got to watch you both playing Racquetball with Dad recently. Laurie

Laurie Bentley - December 10, 2014 at 12:46 PM



“ *Fields of Europe was purchased for the family of Jerry F. Bentley.*



December 09, 2014 at 10:38 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Brothers*



Carrie Jo Bentley Bolin - December 09, 2014 at 10:07 PM



Thanks Carrie.

Laurie Bentley - December 10, 2014 at 05:54 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Patty Greene - December 09, 2014 at 03:58 PM

PG

I had the pleasure of meeting Jane & Jerry through the great sport of racquetball. He was one of the nicest men I know. Always pleasant.....and we had a few good conversations while working the check-in registrations for World Senior Racquetball Championships each year. He donated a lot of his time (and Jane) to the WSRC and I appreciate all that he did for the sport. My thoughts & best wishes are with Jane and the rest of the family in this sad time of their lives. You will be missed Jerry!

Patty Greene - December 09, 2014 at 04:03 PM

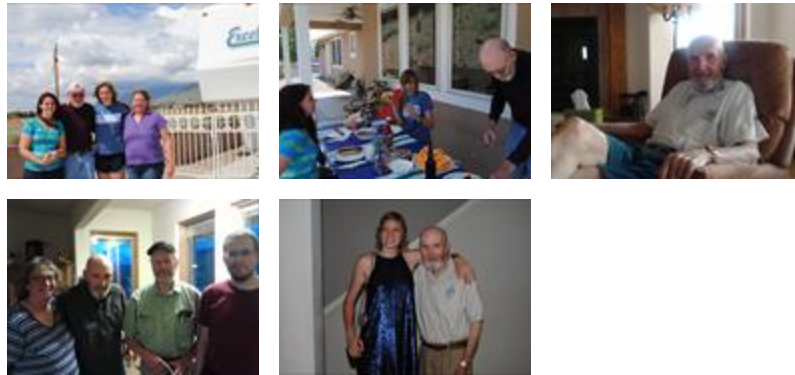
LB

Thank you Patty. The photo is a good one.

Laurie Bentley - December 10, 2014 at 05:57 AM

LB

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Laurie Bentley - December 09, 2014 at 02:11 PM

 Brian Lammons

“ Brian Lammons lit a candle in memory of Jerry F. Bentley



Brian Lammons - December 09, 2014 at 01:26 PM

LY

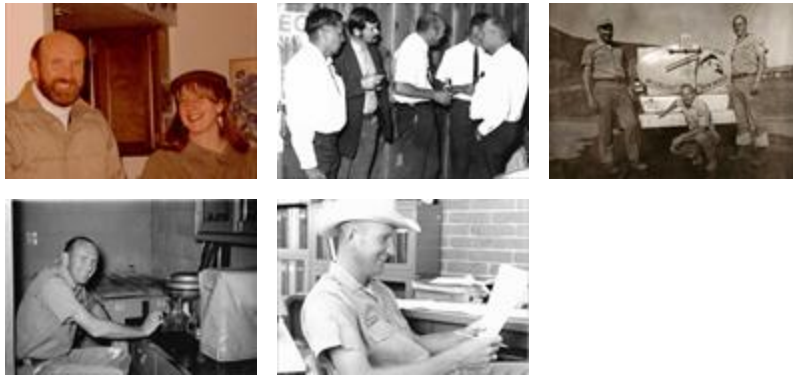
“ *Lyn lit a candle in memory of Jerry F. Bentley*



Lyn - December 09, 2014 at 01:17 PM

LB

“ *14 files added to the album Memories Album*



Laurie Jean Bentley - December 09, 2014 at 12:40 PM

MM

“ *Mary Murphy lit a candle in memory of Jerry F. Bentley*



Mary Murphy - December 08, 2014 at 10:17 PM

RS

“ *On behalf of the FRENCH Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

Richard Stewart - December 08, 2014 at 06:51 PM