



## Cleon Gray Parker III

December 28, 1942 - March 17, 2023

Cleon “Buddy” Gray Parker III, 80, of Prattville, AL passed away on March 17, 2023. Buddy grew up in Linden, AL before serving in the Air Force for over 26 years, and later retiring from the Montgomery County Board of Education after 20 years of service.

Buddy enjoyed spending time with his family, being an active member of Camellia Baptist Church, watching Alabama sports, and frequenting Lake Martin with his dog, Eli.

Buddy was predeceased by his parents, Cleon “Gray” Parker Jr. and Polly Parker. He is survived by his bride of 60 years, Ellen Etheridge Parker; his sons Reid and Adam (Lauren); his daughter Aymee (David); four grandchildren, one great-grandchild; sisters Martha, Sherry, and Laura; brother Billy; and a host of nieces and nephews.

There will be a memorial service at Camellia Baptist Church at 11:00 on Tuesday, March 21 where all of Buddy’s loved ones are invited to join his family in remembering and celebrating a beautiful life focused on God’s love, service, and having fun.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Heart Association.

# Previous Events

## Service

MAR 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

Camellia Baptist Church  
201 Woodvale Rd.  
Prattville, AL 36067

# Tribute Wall

EH

“ Chief Parker “Buddy” you will be so missed! I still remember the day we met when I was a new airman at 7102 CPUSS. I had not been to my first assignment for a week when you came knocking on my dorm room door at the barracks to inform me my Oma was in the hospital terminally ill and helped me get to see her before she passed away. You and Ellen were so instrumental in a way you don’t even know. Prayers for you and your family. Never to be forgotten. Ellen, I am so sorry for the loss of Buddy, he was an amazing man and will be truley missed.

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**Elke Houser** - February 26, 2024 at 01:48 AM

DB

“ Remember Buddy from RGAFB and also his visit w/Chappy to our graduation banquet @ the Kurhaus while we graduated a NCOA/NCOLS class around late eighties. Great support of the program. Dave Butler

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**dave butler** - March 31, 2023 at 02:38 PM

BB

“ Bob, Deborah and Kevin Brown purchased the E nchanted Cottage for the family of Cleon Gray Parker III.



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**Bob, Deborah and Kevin Brown** - March 22, 2023 at 01:31 PM

RB

“ On the one hand I will carry a wounded and heavy heart for many days at the loss of my best friend in life. On the other hand, I will never be without the measureless joy, love, support and laughter that Buddy and Ellen (a saint in her own right) provided to me over the years. Buddy and I spent the best parts of our Air Force careers together, raised our families together, shared our love for sports together and, through it all, were bound together in a powerful expression of brotherly love. He rooted passionately for the Crimson Tide, me for the LSU Tigers, and we spent many a glorious Saturday (with grandson Allen in tow) in those noble shrines of SEC football. A man of honor, faith and service is gone from us. We will rarely see his likes again. Heartfelt condolences to Ellen and the Parker family. Rest in peace, my Brother. Bob Brown

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**Robert Brown** - March 22, 2023 at 01:21 PM

MD

“ Buddy was an inspiration to me. Always cool and collected. A true patriot and exceptional instructor. My condolences to the family. Truly sad for our loss. Fly, Fight, win.

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**Mike DeMatties** - March 20, 2023 at 06:18 PM

RC

“ We'll miss you Buddy but we'll also see you again in heaven. Chappy and Liz Chaplin

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**Robert Chaplin** - March 20, 2023 at 06:09 PM



“ *Rose Tribute was purchased for the family of Cleon Gray Parker III.*



March 20, 2023 at 05:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cleon Gray Parker III.*



March 20, 2023 at 08:25 AM



“ *Ellen, I know how much you're going to miss Buddy but remember all the good times you've had together. Will be praying for you and your family. May the Peace of God give you comfort in the days ahead. Love you Ellen.*

**debbie bowen** - March 19, 2023 at 06:47 PM



*Dear Ellen and family. Please accept my deepest sincere sympathy in the loss of Buddy. May all the warm and special memories you shared with Buddy stay with you and bring you comfort through all the days ahead.*

*Your forever friend,  
LaMond Averett*

**E. LaMond Averett** - March 23, 2023 at 10:37 AM