



Gene Edward Middleton

December 6, 1929 - January 6, 2025

Gene Edward Middleton, 95, died peacefully on January 6, 2025. He was born on December 6, 1929, in East St. Louis, Illinois, to Harry D. Middleton and Clara Belle Martin Middleton. Gene was the youngest of three children. He grew up in Southern Illinois and graduated from East St. Louis Senior High School.

Gene served in the United States Coast Guard from January 1954 to February 1957. He then enjoyed a distinguished career as a Regional Sales Manager with Air France Airlines for over thirty years. After retiring to Lakeland, Florida, Gene became an avid golfer, a dedicated deacon, and a Sunday School teacher at Crestview Baptist Church. He cherished time spent with family and friends, often gathering around the table to share meals or play card games.

Gene is survived by his three children: Linda Middleton Connor, Matt Middleton (Jenny), and Rick Middleton (Stephanie); daughter-in-law, Patty Middleton Jones (Steve); and fourteen grandchildren: Kristen Dalton (Andy), Nick Middleton (Michelle), Luke Middleton, Andrea Stocking (Luke), Kristin Willis (Todd), Lance Connor (Rachel), Kathryn Sparrow (Steven), Logan Connor (Jennifer), Caleb Middleton (Naomi), Josh Middleton (Krystina), Isaac Middleton (Lauren), Faith Keehn, RJ Middleton, and Geoff Middleton (Felicija). Gene's legacy lives on through his twenty-three great-grandchildren: Maddie

(fiancé Ben Miller) and Abby Dalton; Blake and Paige Middleton; Jack and Emma Middleton; Natalie, Elin, and Marek Stocking; Carter, Cooper, and Campbell Willis; Raiden and Rocco Connor; Savannah Connor; Kieran and Aurora Sparrow; Lorelei and Levi Connor; Brayden and Gavin Middleton; Evie Keehn; and Linkin Middleton.

He was reunited in heaven with his beloved wife of 67 years, Amanda Loretta Reames Middleton; his son, Mark Edward Middleton; and his son-in-law, Kevin Lee Connor.

The memorial service will be held at 9:30 AM on January 17, 2025, at Gentry Morrison Serenity Gardens, 3350 Mall Hill Dr., Lakeland, FL 33810. Interment will follow at Florida National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gene's memory to the Alzheimer's Association alzfdn.org or ALS Association als.org.

Cemetery Details

Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Ave.
Bushnell, FL 33513

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 17. 9:30 AM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Serenity Gardens Chapel
3350 Mall Hill Drive
Lakeland, FL 33810
(863) 858-4474
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com
<https://www.gentry-morrison.com/>

Committal Service w/ Military Honors

JAN 17. 12:30 PM (ET)

Florida National Cemetery
6502 SW 102nd Ave.
Bushnell, FL 33513

Tribute Wall



“ *Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Gene Edward Middleton*



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - January 14, 2025 at 11:44 AM

RA

“ *I'm sitting here with my dad, Roy Fisher, 98 years old. He was looking at an old softball pic from the Rosemont Baptist team. He said they were all gone except for him and maybe Gene. I just broke it to him. He and his wife and my parents were good friends. Condolences to the family.*

Ruth Adams - May 27, 2025 at 12:41 PM

JR

“ *Judy Clenney and Kendall RIP purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gene Edward Middleton.*



Judy Clenney and Kendall RIP - January 16, 2025 at 11:13 AM

AM

“ Gene was always so friendly and welcoming. Loretta was as well and they were a loving example of a great marriage with Christ in their lives. He loved Crestview and was a member and deacon for many years. We all missed him when he left.

allen and naomi magruder - January 16, 2025 at 10:58 AM

AR

Gene was my favorite uncle. Bobby & I spent many summers & other times with Gene & Sis. Kay & I also visited a few times. We will miss him & know others will also. We know he is now HOME with Sis, parents & family & we rejoice for that reunion. Love you all & sorry couldn't be there. Love Artie & Kay

Artie & Kay Reames - January 16, 2025 at 07:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gene Edward Middleton.

January 15, 2025 at 09:05 AM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Gene Edward Middleton.



January 15, 2025 at 09:05 AM