



William Theodore "Teddy" Mitchell

November 23, 1929 - August 29, 2021

William Theodore "Teddy" Mitchell, 91, passed away at home in Lakeland, August 29, 2021. He was born in Lakeland to Wayne & Lessie Mitchell on November 23, 1929. He attended Lakeland High, then Merchant Marine school, & served in the US Navy during the Korean Conflict. Teddy met Gail during a visit home on Thanksgiving; a double-date to the Silver Moon Drive-In was their first adventure together. They wed November 7, 1953, raised their own 3 children, and loved & guided many more. They were married 63 years before Gail passed away in 2017 - the only time she ever managed to make it somewhere before he did.

He was a Millwright with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters for over 50 years, working on a wide range of sites; he especially enjoyed working at Canaveral Space Center & being a part of building Walt Disney World. He enjoyed tinkering in the garage with old mechanical things, listening to classical music, singing gospel music, dining out with his wife, watching NASCAR races, airplane shows, & Rays baseball. He was a founding member & longtime deacon at Christ Memorial Baptist Church; he filled many roles & touched countless lives there as a benevolent volunteer for 5 decades. He was a dedicated follower of Christ, faithfully devoted to his wife, unconditionally loving & supportive of his family, and the sweetest patriarch there ever was. To know him was to love him.

In addition to his wife, Gail McClelland Mitchell, he was preceded in death by his parents, Wayne & Lessie (née Nall) Mitchell; son, Lowell W. Mitchell; &

brother, Lowell G. Mitchell.

He is survived by his daughters, Denise Selby & Lynn Felts, both of Lakeland; grandchildren Lisa Merrill, Merita Reyes, Tamara (Stephen) Smith, Byron (Darcy) Felts, & Beverly (Gary) Mershon; adoring great-grandchildren Lauren, Summer, Layla, Nick, Charli, Skylar, Ryder, Kinleigh, Jason, & Wesley; sister-in-law Vertie McClelland; brother-in-law Terry Moon; nephews Buddy, Mike, Greg, & Patrick; nieces Brenda, Sandra, & Karen; & a whole bunch of great-nieces & great-nephews.

The family kindly suggests memorial donations to Cornerstone Hospice or Christ Memorial Baptist Church.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Burial Park

4620 US Highway 98 S
Lakeland, FL 33812

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ Memorial Baptist Church
2929 Hardin Combee Road
Lakeland, FL 33801

Funeral Service

SEP 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ Memorial Baptist Church
2929 Hardin Combee Road
Lakeland, FL 33801

Tribute Wall



“Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of William Theodore "Teddy" Mitchell



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - September 02, 2021 at 04:42 PM

TB

“Dear Denise and Lynn:
I just heard the sad news about your dad. I know how hard it is to lose your mom and dad and will pray that God will send his grace and mercy to your family. I loved the video! I had never seen the beautiful earlier photos; it was fun to see the N. Canal Dr. house again and remember what a wonderful childhood we had there. Your mom and dad were always great to be around; your dad was sweet and always smiling and your mom was direct, (can we say "loud") funny, and loving. That woman knew how to have a good time. Most of her hugs and kisses included her saying "Let me squeeze you around the neck" with lots of laughter. I seem to also remember her giving me a spanking or two. I loved the latter photos that showed what a loving and sweet couple they were their entire lives. What a testimony! Now that they are both in heaven, I can imagine there's been so loud laughing, singing and praising Jesus along with my Mom and Dad.
Blessings to you both,
Resa

Teresa Bray - September 10, 2021 at 10:37 AM

CM

“ Brother Teddy was such a great person. I remember the day he asked me to teach Sunday school and children’s church 27 years ago. He along with Mrs. Gail took me under their wing and helped me grow. He was there anytime we called when someone in my family was having surgery or in the hospital. We were blessed that he was one of the witnesses that signed our marriage license. You will be missed! ❤️

Carla McMillan - September 04, 2021 at 08:39 PM

DA

“ This video is awesome. Such a great man. The photos of him as a young boy remind me of how I remember Lowell looking! My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

Debbie Witte Amig - September 03, 2021 at 12:07 PM

JS

“ Greg, my sincere condolences to you and your family. My thoughts are prayers are with you and your family.

Jolene Spero

Jolene Spero - September 02, 2021 at 12:58 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Theodore "Teddy" Mitchell.



September 01, 2021 at 05:35 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Theodore "Teddy" Mitchell.*



September 01, 2021 at 02:46 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies as your family mourns his loss and rejoices for his heavenly arrival. Although I didn't personally know him I've had the pleasure of seeing and cherishing the seeds he planted so many years ago in his daughter Denise and the next 2 generations to follow. Job well done here on earth! RIP Lisa Morgan*



lisa morgan - September 01, 2021 at 08:26 AM



“ *Terry Moon & Barbara Batchelder purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William Theodore "Teddy" Mitchell.*



Terry Moon & Barbara Batchelder - September 01, 2021 at 07:51 AM