

Fred P. Bergeron

January 5, 1923 - January 22, 2017

Longtime Rockdale resident and former Alcoa executive Fred P. Bergeron, 94, died Sunday, January 22, 2017, in a Round Rock senior-care residence surrounded by his loving family. Funeral services are scheduled at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at St. John's United Methodist Church in Rockdale with Rev. Adam Straznicky officiating and burial following at I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Visitation will precede the service at the church beginning at 11 a.m.

Mr. Bergeron was born on January 5, 1923, in Abbeville, Louisiana, to Joseph Willie and Lilia (Boudreaux) Bergeron. The family moved to Freeport during his youth and he married Dorothy Middleton on January 24, 1948, in Angleton.

Mr. Bergeron and his older brother, Dallas, joined the U.S. Navy at the age of 17 and distinguished themselves by serving on dive bombers flying off three aircraft carriers against the Japanese fleet in World War II. Their heroic service, including the Battle of Midway, earned them the Distinguished Flying Cross.

After returning from the service, Mr. Bergeron earned an electrical engineering degree from the University of Texas at Austin and began his Alcoa career as a production engineer at Point Comfort Operations. He progressed to smelting production manager at Point Comfort and also served as alderman and mayor

of the City of Point Comfort, and was president of the Calhoun Independent School District during a nine-year stint on the school board.

Mr. Bergeron moved to Alcoa's Tennessee Operations in 1967 as smelting production manager and to Massena (NY) Operations in 1970 as general production manager fabricating and smelting. He was transferred to Rockdale in 1972 as works manager.

He managed the startup and operation of the company's new Alcoa Smelting Process at the Anderson County Works in Palestine during his tenure at Rockdale. Bergeron was appointed Alcoa's Texas Area Manager in 1974 and oversaw the company's public affairs activities statewide.

Mr. Bergeron was active in leadership positions with the Texas Chemical Council, Texas Research League, Texas Mining Association, Texas Association of Business and Texas Chamber of Commerce.

He retired from Alcoa in January 1983, culminating 32 years of service in production, supervisory and administrative capacities.

Mr. Bergeron was a senior active member of the Engineering Foundation Advisory Council and received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Texas at Austin College of Engineering. He served as director to the Texas Tech Foundation Advisory Committee.

Mr. Bergeron was appointed to the Texas Mining Council in 1978. Following his appointment, he became a member of the Lignite and Coal Subcommittee for Texas Energy and Natural Resource Advisory Committee. He was a member the Texas University Coal Research Consortium Advisory Committee.

Mr. Bergeron was a board of trustee member and director of Richards Memorial Hospital, a member of the Rockdale Country Club, a member of St. John's United Methodist Church in Rockdale, a charter member of The National World War II Museum in New Orleans, member of Rockdale Rotary Club as well as many other civic and philanthropic positions including activity in city government and local school boards.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Willie and Lilia Bergeron; brothers, Henry Eddie, David Donald and Dallas Joseph Bergeron; and sister, Myrtle McDougal.

Survivors are his wife of 69 years, Dorothy Bergeron of Round Rock; daughters, Pam Morgan and husband Carl of Thomasville, Georgia, Paula Formby and husband Lester of Lampasas, Karen Timmerman and husband Robert of Austin; his grandchildren, Paul Morgan and wife Christina, Brian Timmerman and wife Kristal, Lindsay Altman and husband Daniel, Eric Timmerman and wife Lori, Ashley Crane and husband Matthew; step-grandchildren, DeWayne Formby and DeAnne Formby; and eight great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to, St. John's United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 168, Rockdale, Texas 76567.

Cemetery Details

I.O.O.F. Cemetery

850 N. Main St.
Rockdale, TX 76567

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **25**. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

St. John's United Methodist Church
1700 Hillcrest Dr
Rockdale, TX 76567

Church Service

JAN **25**. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. John's United Methodist Church
1700 Hillcrest Dr
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall

TR

“ *TIM AND VICKY ROBINS purchased the Garden Accent - "Gone yet not forgotten..." for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.*



TIM AND VICKY ROBINS - January 30, 2017 at 11:47 AM

CS

“ *Karen, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your father. He was a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time. ~ Connie Schielack*

Connie Schielack - January 25, 2017 at 02:18 PM

KT

Thank you for your kind words Connie. We will miss him being with us terribly, but will carry him always in our hearts.

Karen Timmerman - January 26, 2017 at 11:43 AM

SB

“ *We first met Fred and Dorothy as our new neighbors. They were very kind and caring people who welcomed us with open arms. We were very sad when they had to leave the area. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Dorothy and the entire family. Even though we only knew Fred for a short time, we could see that he was a man of great character and strength who had accomplished many great things during the course of his lifetime. It was obvious that he had a never ending love for Dorothy and his beautiful family. He will be missed..Sincerely, Sharon & Chuck Bass.*

SHARON BASS - January 24, 2017 at 08:14 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.



January 24, 2017 at 05:25 PM



“ Chuck Bergeron and Family and Bernadette Nye purchased the Garden of Sweet Memories Casket Spray for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.



Chuck Bergeron and Family and Bernadette Nye - January 24, 2017 at 04:54 PM



“ Jack and Gale purchased the Garden of Serenity Bouquet for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.



Jack and Gale - January 24, 2017 at 03:13 PM



“ *My children were truly blessed to have known their G-papa, as they did. He left some big slippers to fill, dwarfed only by his great love for his family. He was a shining example of a man to strive for. We love you, Papa.*



Brian Timmerman - January 24, 2017 at 02:27 PM

PF

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Paula Formby - January 24, 2017 at 12:55 PM

KT

“ *We thank God for blessing us with Dad. He was a wonderful example of a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Praise God for giving Dad wisdom, patience, and loving guidance for his family and an unending devotion to care for all of us. We love you Daddy.....*

Karen Timmerman - January 24, 2017 at 12:54 PM



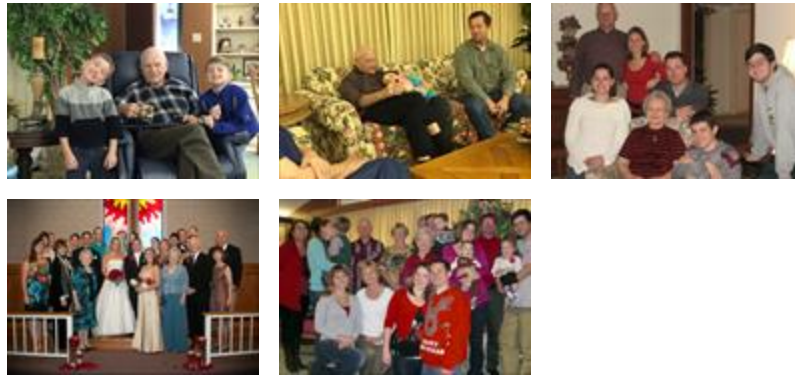
“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.*



January 24, 2017 at 12:39 PM



“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Paul and Christina Morgan - January 24, 2017 at 10:14 AM



“ *Pawpaw's first grandson Paul*



Paul and Christina Morgan - January 24, 2017 at 10:07 AM

AC

“ When I was younger and single, I once told my mom that I wanted a guy as handsome and sweet and caring and wonderful and smart as Papa.

Lucky for me I found one, and got Papa's exuberant approval the day after we got engaged when we visited them in Rockdale! It was so special for me to spend time with my new fiance and my beloved grandparents during such a special time in life. I'm so blessed to have so many memories with my beloved Papa.



Ashley Crane - January 24, 2017 at 10:00 AM

AC

“ No doubt about it, Papa loved us all so very much, and we adored him right back!



Ashley Crane - January 24, 2017 at 09:57 AM

AC

“ I'm one very lucky, blessed girl to have a Papa as wonderful as Fred Bergeron!!!



Ashley Crane - January 24, 2017 at 09:55 AM

AC

“ 23 files added to the album Memories of Papa



Ashley Crane - January 24, 2017 at 09:52 AM



“ *This is a picture of a memory that will stick with us forever. My wife Lori and I took our son (Pawpaw's great grandson) Hunter up to Rockdale to meet him. Hunter was so excited he couldn't stop smiling and trying to climb up the side of the chair. Few things have ever warmed my heart more than watching my son and his great grandfather smile and laugh at each other holding hands.*

Will miss you forever, Pawpaw, and couldn't be more proud to call such a great man and hero my grandfather. God truly blessed me beyond words for my 32 years with you.



Eric Timmerman - January 24, 2017 at 09:36 AM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.*



January 23, 2017 at 11:48 PM

JL

“ My mother was Fred's aunt, so I'll share a cute and humorous memory she often told of Freddy's (as we called him) teenage years in Freeport, Texas.

My father occasionally worked overnight. When that occurred, my mother, who was very fearful of spending nights alone with two small children, would call Fred's mother to see if he could spend the night. Fred always slept very soundly, and one night he ensnared his feet in a bedside radio's electrical cord causing it to crash to the floor. The resulting racket awakened everyone but Fred.

When we were grown Fred revisited this humorous story with me, and we wondered how much good he would have been if there had been an intruder? Also, he related that he slept so soundly that he often needed an alarm clock in a dish pan placed near his bed so as to make enough racket to ensure he would wake up.

John Landry - January 23, 2017 at 11:13 PM

MB

“ I loved how he danced with his loving wife in 2003 at his grandson's wedding in Tallahassee.

Martha Barrera - January 23, 2017 at 10:39 PM

PM

“ Pawpaw loved his great grandboys and they really loved him



Paul and Christina Morgan - January 23, 2017 at 10:32 PM

LI

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Lindsay - January 23, 2017 at 10:31 PM

LI

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Lindsay - January 23, 2017 at 10:29 PM

LI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lindsay - January 23, 2017 at 10:21 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.



January 23, 2017 at 10:20 PM

LI

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Lindsay - January 23, 2017 at 10:01 PM

LI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lindsay - January 23, 2017 at 09:35 PM

“Below are writings collected about the passing of a dear relative or spouse. Perhaps they will give the family a bit of consolation.

Written by Isla Paschal Richardson entitled:

To Those I Love

*If I should ever leave you whom I love
To go along the Silent Way, grieve not,
Nor speak of me with tears, but laugh and talk
Of me as if I were beside you there.
(I'd come—I'd come, could I but find a way!
But would not tears and grief be barriers?)
And when you hear a song or see a bird
I loved, please do not let the thought of me
Be sad. For I am loving you just as I always have.
You were so good to me!
There were so many things I wanted still
To do—so many things to say to you.
Remember that I did not fear. It was
Just leaving you that was so hard to face.
We cannot see beyond. But this I know:
I love you so—'twas heaven here with you!*

The next is from a letter by a Union soldier, Sullivan Ballou, to his wife Sarah the day before a Civil War battle. Ballou perished shortly after this was written.

“But, O Sarah! If the dead can come back to this earth and flit unseen around those they loved, I shall always be near you; in the garish day and in the darkest night -- amidst your happiest scenes and gloomiest hours -- always, always; and if there be a soft breeze upon your cheek, it shall be my breath; or the cool air fans your throbbing temple, it shall be my spirit passing by. Sarah, do not mourn me dead; think I am gone and wait for thee, for we shall meet again.”

John Landry - January 23, 2017 at 05:30 PM

EA

“ *What a fantastic brother-in-law!!!!!! So glad you and Dorothy found each other and you joined our family. Have so many wonderful memories.*

Earlene - January 23, 2017 at 05:29 PM

PF

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Paula Formby - January 23, 2017 at 03:43 PM

PF

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Paula Formby - January 23, 2017 at 03:40 PM

JL

“ *John K. Landry purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.*



John K. Landry - January 23, 2017 at 01:27 PM

TP

“ *the McDougals, Mike and Jeanne, Pat and Patsy, purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Fred P. Bergeron.*



the McDougals, Mike and Jeanne, Pat and Patsy - January 23, 2017 at 12:11 PM

MI

“ *Uncle Fred was the finest man I have ever known. Many times throughout my life I have need his advise and he has never failed me. I will never forget him.*

Mike - January 23, 2017 at 11:31 AM

PF

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Paula Formby - January 23, 2017 at 07:33 AM

EG

“ *Eric, Stephani, Brittany & Brooklyn Galvan lit a candle in memory of Fred P. Bergeron*



Eric, Stephani, Brittany & Brooklyn Galvan - January 23, 2017 at 05:29 AM