



Augustus Mays Jr.

December 25, 1941 - January 16, 2025

In Loving Memory of Augustus (Gus) Mays Jr.

Alpha: December 25, 1941

Omega: January 16, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Colonel Augustus “Gus” Mays Jr., who left us peacefully on January 16, 2025, at the age of 83 in Manassas, Virginia. A beloved father, grandfather, military hero, and friend to many, Gus’s remarkable life was a testament to service, love, and resilience.

Gus was born on December 25, 1941, in Denver, Colorado, to Augustus Sr. and Geraldine Mays. The third of five children, he grew up in Denver, where he attended Manual High School, graduating in 1960. Gus went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 1973 and a Master of Arts in Management and Public Administration from Webster College in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1977.

He dedicated his life to serving his country, enlisting in the United States Air Force in November 1960. Over the course of 43 years, Gus rose through the ranks to become a Colonel, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues. He was commissioned as a distinguished graduate from the Officer Training School in San Antonio, Texas, in 1974. Gus held numerous leadership roles throughout his career, commanding two supply squadrons, a

logistics group, and a major defense distribution center. His assignments took him around the globe, including Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Germany, and Panama, as well as various states across the U.S. He retired in 2004, leaving behind a legacy of integrity and exemplary service.

In 1969, Gus met the love of his life, Janice, while both were stationed at Selfridge Air Force Base in Michigan. Their whirlwind romance led to their marriage on August 22, 1970. Together, they built a beautiful life and raised two children, Michelle Ormond of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Augustus Mays III of Montclair, Virginia. Their love story spanned 47 years until Janice's passing in 2017.

Gus was known for his meticulous planning and determination. Whether in his professional life or at home, he approached every challenge with an unshakable belief in the power of preparation. Despite the perception of his tough exterior, Gus had a heart of gold and was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who found immense joy in his family.

He is survived by his two children; his daughter-in-law, Aline Mays; his son-in-law, Tyrone Ormond; five grandchildren—Shaniece Ormond, Savion Ormond, Audriana Mays, Alexandra Mays and Augustus Mays IV; and three great-grandchildren—Zoella, Gabriella, and Ezeriah. He is also survived by his brother, Kevin Mays, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, extended family, and dear friends. Gus was preceded in death by his beloved wife Janice, his parents, and his siblings Barbara Williams, Marva Hopkins, and Ronald Mays.

Gus's life was guided by faith, family, and a commitment to serving others. His journey serves as a beacon of inspiration to all who knew him. The Mays family invites everyone to celebrate his extraordinary life, cherishing the memories and love he shared with so many.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 28. 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of life with live streaming

JAN 29. 4:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Augustus Mays Jr.*



March Funeral Homes - January 29, 2025 at 12:43 PM

TF

Uncle Gus, "Butch" as I've heard him called sometimes, has always been a huge figure to me. I've always been proud, looking from the outside in of his accomplishments, the care he has had for his family, and his humbleness when I did see him. Highly decorated, I never got the impression that he was cavalier, but a man who worked hard and just wanted to make a good life for his family.

I pray for his children, grand children, and great grandchildren, for I know this loss is great, and difficult. May you find comfort in each other, through your memories, and the love shown and showered upon you.

God Bless
Tanya Fuqua
Denver CO

Tanya Fuqua - January 29, 2025 at 05:52 PM

HW

I thank God for the life of our cousin, Augustus "Butch" Mays. Growing up in Wichita Kansas, we didn't see a lot of Butch, but my mother, Harriet Willis, my Aunt Beverly Williams, and my Grandmother Fostella Camper Palmer, spoke very well of him. I remember visiting in Denver, but better remember when they came to Wichita. One thing I will always remember is his calm spirit, and his beautiful voice. When every we were together, I seem to remember Butch and Marva singing. What beautiful voices. When I was a teen, I remember Butch coming to Wichita to visit, and a member of our church had been stationed with him overseas. They actually sang together, and if I recall, they made a record. I just wanted to send some love from your Wichita Kansas family. The children of Beverly and Harriet. We love you.

Harry Willis - January 30, 2025 at 08:24 AM

SA

“ Dear Gus,

You were my last commander but more importantly, you were the BEST! As strong and straight-forward and hard working as they come--and with that wonderful big laugh of yours. I had hoped that perhaps Ted and I might visit you this year but sadly, it's too late for that now. On the other hand, today would be your 84th birthday and I hope you and Janice are celebrating it, wrapped in the warmth and love you always had for each other. Fondly,

Sandi

509th Supply Squadron

Pease AFB, NH



Sandi - December 25, 2025 at 11:28 AM

PA

“ Col Mays, was my commander at Dover Air Force Base. When I think of the Air Force's core values, I am reminded of a person who reflected, Integrity First, Service before self, and excellence! Both Col May and Mrs. Mays were great Americans, and the world will miss their impact! Be Blessed! P. King-Hasberry

Pam - June 17, 2025 at 04:21 PM

KB

“ Karen Bouchard-Bilton lit a candle in memory of Augustus Mays Jr.



Karen Bouchard-Bilton - February 17, 2025 at 01:59 PM

RR

“ Col Mays was my boss when I was stationed at Howard AFB, Panama. He was absolutely the epitome of a child of the Most High, a great husband, father, and military leader! His lovely wife was equally as beautiful. Two beautiful souls! It was indeed my honor and privilege to know and to serve with him. To God be the Glory!



Regina Ray - January 31, 2025 at 04:19 PM

CC

“ Uncle Gus - a man with a huge heart, amazing humor, and strong faith. Our hearts were deeply saddened by the passing of your father. We send our deepest condolences to cousins Michelle and Gus. Aunt Janice welcomed him, I'm sure and they are rejoicing together, and I pray they have found their sister Brenda along the way. We are sure going to miss seeing him and sharing times together. Just know that while we don't get to see each other much, we are here for you. We love you and pray God's comfort and strength for you all.

Your Denver Family - Brent & Carla Coburn and Uncle Andrew

Carla Coburn - January 29, 2025 at 06:28 PM

HT

“ Colonel Augustus “Gus” Mayes, is like a brother to me. I met he and my “sister” Janice in 1984 when they were stationed here in OKCity at Tinker Air Force Base. We enjoyed many enjoyable times together. Janice truly became my sister as we talked and laughed about many things. Gus always was lighthearted. Gus was very astute and knowledgeable about current events. He will truly be missed. See you one day again soon my brother and sister. Now they are together for eternity. Love you much, your sister in Christ, Henrietta Thompson

Henrietta Thompson - January 29, 2025 at 05:05 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Augustus Mays Jr..



January 28, 2025 at 08:25 PM

AT

“ Aunt Gwen and Aunt Tina purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Augustus Mays Jr..



Aunt Gwen and Aunt Tina - January 28, 2025 at 05:31 PM

WF

“ Washington and Brown Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Augustus Mays Jr..



Washington and Brown Family - January 28, 2025 at 12:38 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Augustus Mays Jr..



January 27, 2025 at 01:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Augustus Mays Jr..

January 27, 2025 at 01:41 PM

KB

“ In a bar, Basel Switzerland, 2 Americans and a Swiss - a knocked over beer - Good Grief and answer, Charlie Brown - that was the beginning of a friendship that never quit - Regretfully we never got to meet the family in person, planned for this year but now we have to wait to meet the beautiful angels Gus and finally, Janice. We send our deepest sympathy to the family.

Karen Bouchard-Bilton - January 24, 2025 at 11:19 AM

MM

It is with an heavy heart & great sadness to learn of the passing of Mr. Mays. I worked for him for over 15 years at Tinker AFB. He was indeed a strong no nonsense Commander who earned my utmost respect. RIP, Sir!

Mary McHenry - March 07, 2025 at 01:14 AM

KS

“ Karen and John Bouchard, Switzerland purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Augustus Mays Jr..



Karen and John Bouchard, Switzerland - January 24, 2025 at 10:39 AM

KS

“ Karen and John Bouchard, Switzerland planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Augustus Mays Jr..

Karen and John Bouchard, Switzerland - January 24, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - January 22, 2025 at 08:26 AM