



Albert C. Lowes

December 1, 1932 - December 9, 2019

Albert C. Lowes, a legend of the legal community of Southeast Missouri, died peacefully on December 9, 2019 of complication after a fall. He was 87 years of age.

Albert could only be described as one of a kind. He was hard-charging, hard-working and cigar smoking. He peppered his speech with unique expressions and colourful language. He was also honest, loyal and an aggressive advocate for his clients and his community.

Albert was born on December 1, 1932 to Guy E. Lowes and Lillian Tuschhoff Lowes on a farm near Oak Ridge, Missouri. His early years were marked by the tough economic times of the Great Depression. He fondly recalled that his father would shoot squirrels early in the morning to provide his family with breakfast. He graduated from Perryville High School in 1950. He joined the US Marine Corps almost immediately after his graduation.

Albert would later describe his time in the Marine Corps as one of the two seminal influences of his life. The Marines sent him to Korea in 1952, as the secretary for two two-star generals. During his time as a Marine, he handled court martials and top-secret dispatches as well as various other responsibilities. He often joked that his most hazardous assignment was waking the general in the middle of the night whenever events dictated it.

Albert was very proud of the fact that he attained the rank of Staff Sergeant after only 35 months in the Marines. He was discharged from the Marines in 1954 with a passion to pursue a legal career.

Albert attended Southeast Missouri State Teachers College, as it was then known, and graduated from law school of the University of Missouri-Columbia in early 1959, less than 5 years after he started his university education.

It was during his time at Mizzou that Albert experienced the other seminal event in his life. He met Peggy Rae Watson, an energetic and determined journalism student. He was able to convince Peggy to relocate to Southeast Missouri and to become his wife. They were married on August 27, 1960. Their union lasted until her death on September 2, 2016.

Upon his graduation from law school, Albert joined the law firm of Robert M. Buerkle. The two remained associated professionally for nearly 25 years. In 1984, Albert decided to form the partnership of Lowes & Drusch with Walter S. ("Sam") Drusch. This partnership lasted 31 years until both men retired in 2015.

Albert considered himself to be a trial lawyer and he was very proud of it. Most lawyers and judges of his era can tell many an amusing story about Al in the courtroom or with one of his clients. His expressions were legendary. Some family favorites include: "born tired" (lazy); "choir practice" (time at a bar); "dead soldiers" (empty beer bottles); and "drunk box" (breathalyzer for measuring blood-alcohol levels). During his legal career, Albert tried more than 400 jury trials, and with assistance of other attorneys, he handled more than 150 appeals.

Albert participated in a number of civic and community activities. He was a member of the Missouri Bar, the Cape Girardeau County Bar, the Eighth

Circuit Bar and the Federal District Bar. He was active in many Masonic orders, including Excelsior Lodge #441 in Jackson and the 32nd Degree Royal Arch Masons in Cape Girardeau. He was also a member of the Cape Council, the Cape Commandery, the Knights Templar, the Moolah Shriners of St. Louis and the Scottish Rite Valley of the Orient in St. Louis. He was a lifetime member of the VFW in Cape Girardeau and the American Legion in Jackson. Albert was charter member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Cape Girardeau.

Albert took great pride in his family. Albert and Peggy were blessed with, and often challenged by, their three children: Danita Rae Lowes, Albert Charles Lowes II and Kurt Brandon Lowes. All three obtained both bachelor and graduate degrees. Danita is a long-term resident of Sydney, Australia. Albert lives in Oklahoma City and Kurt resides in Chicago. Their children blessed them with 4 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 1 step-great grandchild. Danita is the mother to Hayden, Blake and Zara Fite as well as stepmother to Nicole Bennett-Fite. Albert and his wife, Susan Starkey Lowes, are the parents of Ashley Whiting and grandparents of Bastion Whiting. Kurt and his wife, Crystal Kennedy Lowes, are the parents of Ascher Lowes.

In addition to his children and grandchildren, Albert is survived by his siblings (Guy Lowes, Jean Paden and Mary Lowes) and a sister-in-law (Jeanne Lowes). He is preceded in death by his parents and his beloved wife. Albert is now at peace with his "best buddy".

Visitation will be from 4pm to 8pm on Monday, December 16, 2019 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The funeral will be held at 10am on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home with Rev. David Roth officiating. Entombment will be at the Memorial Park Mausoleum in Cape Girardeau.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be directed to the Children's Hospital of Michigan. They can be reached via www.chmfoundation.org/donate-now/ or (313)993-8815 or Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation, 3901 Beaubien-Mailslot 257, Detroit MI 48201. Alternatively, memorials can be directed to the VFW in Cape Girardeau via their website <https://www.vfwpost3838.org/donate>

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Service

DEC 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

JO

“*Albert C. Lowes' son in Oklahoma City, is my best friend. And best friends we have been for nearly two decades now. To memorialize Big Al as a litigator is clearly but one aspect of his life. I remember him as Albert's colorful father who would come to Oklahoma City on occasion to visit. Yes, I have a few funny stories of Big Al at Albert and Susan's wedding, when I as the best man tried to make a speech recommendation for the Father of the Groom. Oh my....*

Earlier in our friendship, Albert and I started a men's Saturday Morning Breakfast Club here in OKC. Now, we have about 12 guys that meet at various city diners where we talk shop, politics and embellish old stories. Our best guess is we're nearing 900 breakfasts together. For many, many years, Big Al would call his son sharply at 9am Saturday morning. Albert always took his father's phone call. Usually just a brief check-in, to see if all was well.

And, I can tell you, Big Al's son as done very well for himself over the last 20 years. He's built a respected life and new career in Oklahoma. Albert is the technology expert in charge of managing the computer system that supports almost every state prosecutor and district attorney for the entire State of Oklahoma. He's a longtime member and volunteer at his church. And he is admired, respected and valued as a friend, technologist, husband, father and grandfather. His closest friends know him for his unwavering moral compass, humility, intelligence, candor and humor.

Big Al was very proud of his children. He made that extremely clear in the speech that he did give at Albert and Susan's wedding. I know he'll be deeply missed by his son Albert.

Joe Hausknecht

Joe - December 16, 2019 at 04:59 PM

JD

“ Albert C. Lowes was the best person I had met in my life. Ever since I met him during 1986, we became friends and started sharing our academic values. He was the first person I met who had so much respect for teachers. The reason being the most important vision AI had for educating American young people going to college for higher studies. He wanted these kids to be serious in their studies and learn as much as they can to serve the country. Being a Professor of Physics at Southeast Missouri State University and involved with the international programs, I used to bring students from India to study various subjects at the university. AI will ask me every time I came back from India " Jai I hope you brought some talented smart kids from India". I always loved his remarks and had so much respect for AI.

AI was one of the best lawyers I had seen, a lawyer who studied his cases so carefully, worked hard to get the truth out of them and had success most of the time. He without any doubt was a "legend" in the legal community in Cape Girardeau. By far he was one of the best lawyers. He never showed any hesitations saying what he wanted to say in front of the judge regarding his clients.

I can write pages after pages about my friend AI and won't know where to stop. He was a unique person a true friend who will be missed forever. How much proud he was serving the country as a member of the armed forces. I salute you for that AI.

Jai N. Dahiya

Jai N. Dahiya - December 15, 2019 at 03:27 PM

LS

“ So much has been said about this extraordinary man. Growing up a few houses away from the Lowes home was a unique opportunity to know the family very well. Al called me peanut for whatever reason. There was a large group of kids/families in our neighborhood and we knew one another well. It is hard to express how all of this impacted lives but we were so blessed to have had this upbringing and special relationships. I mourn for Danita, Albert and Curt in their loss. With love and fond memories, LeAndrea

LeAndrea Solorzano - December 13, 2019 at 08:03 PM

SJ

“ Sara Johnson purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Albert C. Lowes.



Sara Johnson - December 13, 2019 at 09:05 AM

SD

“ Danita, Albert Charles, and Curt, I am so sorry to learn of your father's passing. He was quite a man. I have so many memories of all of us growing up in the neighborhood. Brings a smile to every time. I can't believe all these years have past and how our lives have changed. You will be in my thoughts and prayers. Hopefully, we can exchange some texts to catch up with each other. Stephanie

stephanie drum - December 13, 2019 at 07:30 AM

NI

“ you will be missed my dear friend this life and the next look me up in the next

Nicole - December 12, 2019 at 03:12 PM