



Mr. Arden Mays Merckle Jr.

August 10, 1964 - January 6, 2017

Arden Mays Merckle, Jr., 52, of Plant City, Florida, born August 10, 1964 in Lakeland, entered into eternal rest on January 6, 2017. He was a passionate artist, photographer, collector, genealogist, and community activist. He was preceded in death by his mother, Neva Wilson Merckle; and brother, Arden William Merckle. He is survived by his father, Judge Arden Mays Merckle, Sr. (Marilynn) of Colorado; sisters, Norrine Merckle Martin (Timothy) and Alane Compton Campbell (Berry) of South Carolina; cousins, Punk and LouAnn Watson of Plant City; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends. A graveside service will be held on Thursday, January 12 at 11:00 A.M. at Mt. Enon Cemetery, 3702 N. Frontage Road, Plant City. Expressions of condolence at www.HopewellFuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Enon Cemetery

3702 North Frontage Road
Plant City, FL 33565

Previous Events

Graveside

JAN 12. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Enon Cemetery
3702 North Frontage Road
Plant City, FL 33565

Tribute Wall

FO

“ So so very sorry to hear of mays passing I grew with mays in plant city my work at court house in plant cit with arden @neva in the cleeks office so I'm heart broken to lose such a good friend. Franklin oneal

Franklin oneal - January 22, 2017 at 03:42 PM

GC

“ Today, I shared a flight from Tampa to Denver with the Senior Arden Merckle and wish to express my deepest sympathy to the Judge and the entire family. We talked so much about everything, I failed to ask what brought you to Tampa so suddenly. My regrets for not asking to express this in person. And yessir, it WAS indeed Bob Johnson! Our Tampa roots are intertwined. "Godspeed" my friend.

Gregory Capitano - January 17, 2017 at 06:52 PM

TA

“ Words can not express how saddened to hear of Mays passing. We will hold his memory in our hearts.

We met Mays on a trip to Peru with our art class. Mays was a fun loving, kind, and gentle spirit. His presence always had a bright aura around it and somehow made you feel loved and special just being near him.

You will be missed dearly.

Tara and Donna

Tara - January 16, 2017 at 08:04 AM





Elizabeth
Nardella

“ 8 files added to the album *Peru Adventure*



Elizabeth Nardella - January 14, 2017 at 02:50 PM



Elizabeth
Nardella

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Elizabeth Nardella - January 14, 2017 at 02:41 PM

DS

“ *Sir Mays,*

I stared at your looking glass today & what did I see? An Alternate reality with you smiling warmly at me. In your castle you are a King and We are your admiring social ring. Not a tapestry is tattered, not a statue misplaced. Your palace is full of grandeur, magic and grace.

My gaze is disrupted by a passer by, I'm back in reality & I start to cry. There are empty spaces on the walls where family faces should be. You didn't even get a chance to show me your magnificent Christmas tree. Your palace feels empty even filled to the brim. To your friends it feels like you've traveled away on a whim. A house is not a home without its hearts love inside. All it's magic & wonder faded the moment you died. Oh how I wish the looking glass world could be true, that we could still play games & be merry beside you. We have said our good byes at the place you are to rest, but for some of us you'll live on forever inside the hearts within our chests. May we all live the rest of our days in reflection of your kindness and love as you rule your new Palace in Your Heaven above.

Dawn Scott-Hays - January 13, 2017 at 01:32 PM

TS

“ *God took home a sweet gentle soul way too soon. Mays left such a wonderful impression on so many and always could bring a smile to your face. He had such an infectious smile that lit up a room; it was contagious! Thank you for sharing your love of art with the world with your talents and visions, he made our family tree more memorable. I know you are gone from this world for now and until we see you again you will be dearly missed.*

With much love,

Terry & Dawn Sutorus

Terry & Dawn Sutorus - January 12, 2017 at 01:18 PM

JB

“ Mays, I will miss your bright shining light that filled a room with happy and positive energy. You were a true adventurer and lived life with such passion it spilled over to those around you. Thank you for the precious time you spent with me chatting about art, your mom, your studio and learning to play the flute. Anyone that ever met you will always have a "nugget" of Mays left in their heart. For the rest of my days, I will NEVER forget that bright shining light that came straight from your heart. <3



Joyce Bugaiski - January 11, 2017 at 09:51 PM

NC

“ There wasn't anything I didn't love about Mays. He had the most loving spirit. He was Magic. What a loving child he was to his mother and father. He took such good care of his mother when she was sick. I had the privilege of being the realtor of his grandmother's home. My daughter and I did this together. We worked on estate sales, garage sales and just about everything with Mays. He organized everything himself. The house was incredibly beautiful but badly in need of repair. Mays worked so hard to make everything just right. He never complained about anything. He was always so positive. It was a joy to be around him always. He wanted to make sure that everything was done properly. No short cuts. He prided himself on his honesty. He was a perfectionist as anyone could see by his paintings. I will miss his joy. I will miss his enthusiasm. I will miss hearing about his travels. I will miss his Facebook posts but most of all I will miss his adorable smiling face and his hug. I miss you so much Mays. Thank you for making me a better person having known you. I know you are with your mother and in God's loving arms....Until we meet again.... I love ❤️ you Mays.

Norma Minardi Cohen - January 11, 2017 at 04:13 PM

MA

“ Our dear friend Mays Merckle Jr. was a very close friend and almost like a younger brother to me., (Mayee) We shared many happy moments and a few sad ones as well.

I (Mayee) was a confident and had many characteristics in common like: traveling, fashion, home décor, languages, etc.

. Last Dec. 23rd of 2016, my husband Ron and I were invited to a most delightful dinner in the majesty of the table setting of his beautiful home, second to none; as he was so classy and generous. We had a super happy time and discussed of the next day, Dec. 24, 2016 to spend together on the Christmas Eve. I (Mayee) was asked by him to show how to make the " my famous clementine dinner candles" for his next formal dinner.! That never came! I promised his late mother Neva best friend of mine, that I would watch over her son. May God Bless his Soul and will always keep him in our fond memories! R.C and Mayee Albright!

Mayee B. Albright - January 11, 2017 at 01:14 PM

NW

“ I first met Mays on Ancestry.com. Were both researching the Wilson family. In March 2015, my husband Tom and I met Mays at a Cracker Barrel near Plant City. Mays was so excited to finally get to meet Wilson relatives. His maternal grandfather Roland Wilson was the much younger brother to my husband Tom's paternal grandfather Cecil Hendry Wilson from Bartow, FL. Mays brought us copies of his geneology research, we shared some old family photos, had lunch and said our goodbyes. Never did we think that would be the last time we would ever see him again. We kept in touch on Facebook and got to know each other that way. He was a kind and generous spirit. Rest in Peace sweet cousin.

*Tom and Nancy Wilson
St. Augustine, FL*

Nancy Wilson - January 11, 2017 at 07:21 AM

NW

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



Nancy Wilson - January 11, 2017 at 07:09 AM

NW

Mays and Tom Wilson - March 2015. Mays first time to meet a Wilson relative. We were excited to meet our new found cousin. Mays said he was having a bad hair day.

Nancy Wilson - January 11, 2017 at 07:23 AM

BF

“ *Forever my Renaissance man, or as we lovingly called him "Mr. Fancy-Pants".
We never could come close to his awesome level of costuming.*



Beverly Farley - January 10, 2017 at 09:54 PM

PW

“ *One of the last photos of Mays ,we celebrating our Grandson' s,
Birthday. We Will miss him everyday.*

Punk and LouAnn Watson - January 10, 2017 at 02:45 PM

JV

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jan Veazey - January 10, 2017 at 01:14 PM

CW

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Carolyn Walden - January 10, 2017 at 10:33 AM

CW

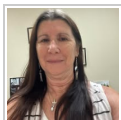
Mays we already miss you! Love you cousin. I will keep a candle burning for you. May you be at peace with your loved ones up in heaven.

Carolyn Walden - January 10, 2017 at 10:34 AM

SO

*A friend to all
He shared so much with us.
Heavens gets another angel 🙏
God bless your family ❤️*

Shelly Bullock Orrico - January 10, 2017 at 03:55 PM



Mays I will miss your sweet smile and the pictures from your awesome adventures. Celebrate and rejoice in Heaven. Til we meet again my friend.

Paula Park - January 11, 2017 at 08:33 AM

DM

“ *Dad & Marilyn purchased the Magnificent Life S
pray for the family of Mr. Arden Mays Merckle Jr..*



Dad & Marilyn - January 10, 2017 at 09:48 AM



“ *I'm so saddened to hear of the passing of Mays please accept my
condolences will keep y'all in my prayers.Nancy McMullen*

Nancy McMullen - January 09, 2017 at 09:08 PM