



Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr.

October 19, 1927 - February 8, 2019

Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk, Jr., 91, of Plant City, Florida, passed away on Friday, February 8, 2019 surrounded by his family. He was born on October 19, 1927 at the family home in Plant City. Bubba graduated with a B.A. in Business Administration from the University of Florida, Gainesville in 1951, after serving in the United States Navy. He met and married his beloved wife of 66 years, Etta Mae Helzer Busk also of Plant City. Upon retiring from a career in Sales, they moved from West Palm Beach, Florida to Hernando, Florida and later returned to Plant City. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, sailing, tennis, and traveling. His love of nature and the ocean were shared by many with adventures on his sailboat, "Farewell". Bubba will be lovingly remembered by his three children, Lou Ann Hodgens Busk, Walter "Christian" Busk III, and Lisa Foss (Chuck). He will also be fondly remembered by his grandchildren, Lindsey and Kevin Hodgens (Kimmie), Ashley and Andrew Foss (Brittany); great grandchildren, Hailey and Ryland Hodgens; and nieces, nephews and cousins. Bubba was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Christian Busk, Sr. and Lillie Belle Methvin Busk; and sister, Virginia "Jenny" Busk Smith of Manassas, Virginia. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, February 16 at 11:00 A.M. at Oaklawn West Cemetery, 1900 N. Wheeler Street, Plant City 33563. A Celebration of Life will follow at the office of Core Wealth Advisors, 124 South Florida Avenue, 4th Floor, Lakeland 33801 (across from Polk Theatre). Expressions of condolence at HopewellFuneral.com or Etta Mae Busk, Arbor Hills, 4146 Lakeland Hills

Bldg, Unit 227, Lakeland 33605.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Cemetery

N. Wheeler Road
Plant City, FL

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Oaklawn Cemetery
N. Wheeler Road
Plant City, FL

Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr.



Hopewell Funeral Home - February 15, 2019 at 09:32 AM

JM

“ Jason Mattair sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr.



Jason Mattair - April 26, 2019 at 01:29 AM

RS

“ So many wonderful memories of Bubba and all the Busks. Will miss you. Ron Saul

Ronald Saul - February 17, 2019 at 10:04 AM

EH

“ 14 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Ed Hodgens - February 16, 2019 at 01:00 AM



“ 46 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Hopewell Funeral Home - February 15, 2019 at 08:27 AM

PB

“ *I Remember what fun we cousins had spending time with our Uncle Bubba, Aunt Etta Mae , Lou Ann , Chris & Lisa. We always begged to stay just a "little longer". Uncle Bubba & that generation were one of a kind & will never be replaced. " Home is the sailor, Home from the sea"*

Perri Sue Sparkman Baker - February 14, 2019 at 08:10 PM

JC

“ So many memories of a wonderful neighbor, Bubba will surely be missed. My sincere sympathy to Etta Mae and your family. Janet Calvello and family.

Janet Calvello - February 14, 2019 at 08:10 PM

M(

“ I was so sorry to hear about Bubba leaving us. My memories of him are from good times--concerts at the Strawberry Festival or simply chatting with him in his favorite place--his garage. He was delightful, and I send my sincere sympathies to you all. God bless. Meg Scott.

Margaret (Meg) - February 14, 2019 at 07:20 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr..



February 14, 2019 at 04:35 PM

FF

“ Fernando Eduards and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr..



Fernando Eduards and family - February 14, 2019 at 01:36 PM

FE

“ Chris,
You and your family are in my heart and mind.
My condolences on the passing of your father.
I have wonderful memories of our sailing on Farewell (Allied sea
wind #110).
My regards from Brazil,
Fernando Eduards and family

FERNANDO SILVEIRA EDUARDS - February 14, 2019 at 01:03 PM

TF

“ The Tanton Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr..



The Tanton Family - February 13, 2019 at 04:44 PM

CI

“ I will miss seeing "Bubba" with his pipe, using it as a pointer as he tells me stories of his travels to India. He was soft spoken so I had to listen closely. I know he loved telling those stories and more to me. Bubba was always kind to me when I visited in Plant City. I always felt welcomed as I drove back and forth from Ft Myers when my son when to school there. I know you all will miss him dearly. God bless you all during this difficult time.

Cindy - February 13, 2019 at 04:34 PM

VF

“ Virginia Sparkman & Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr..



Virginia Sparkman & Family - February 13, 2019 at 02:52 PM

PP

“ Always enjoyed talking with Bubba when he would come down to the Club (BCYC) and spend part of the day there. Would talk about our mutual friend Phil Panos who got him interested in BCYC.

Paul Pittman

Paul Pittman - February 13, 2019 at 02:16 PM

BG

“ As a close friend of Virginia Sparkman, I, of course, met her sister Etta Mae and husband, Bubba. Our meeting goes back to the time when they lived in Palm Beach Gardens. It didn't take long for them to become my dear friends. Three of my friends and I had many slumber parties in their home in Palm Beach Gardens when we went to the Burt Reynolds Dinner Theater and later in Plant City when we attended the Strawberry Festival. I have wonderful memories of fun times with Bubba and Etta Mae and I will surely miss him. *Betty Gates*

Betty Gates - February 13, 2019 at 01:37 PM

CT

“ Carol and Richard Taylor purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr..



Carol and Richard Taylor - February 13, 2019 at 01:09 PM

JH

“ Bubba Busk was an amazing man. He was a teller of tales and a maker of bacon waffles. You could feel his strength whenever you were in his presence. He and his lovely wife Etta opened their arms and their hearts and made you feel like part of their family. I was blessed to be a guest in their home to celebrate the Strawberry Festival with the entire Busk clan and will never forget how special they made me feel. Bubba loved people, and he surely loved this family. Bubba will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

Jean Hull - February 12, 2019 at 03:09 PM

JL

My Uncle Bubba was always smiling and happy to see you. Some of my fondest memories are of spending the night with my cousins when we lived in West Palm Beach and they lived in Riviera Beach. My Uncle Bubba would wake up at odd times and be hungry and he'd make us an egg, bacon, and cheese sandwich at 12:00 am. He also used to stop by our house when he was a salesman for Keds and take a nap on the floor of our living room. He loved people and never met a stranger. My dad and son enjoyed some good times at the hunting camp with Bubba. I wish I could have heard some of those stories, but what was talked about in camp, stayed in camp! I never made it on a trip on his sailboat, but I know he loved the ocean and loved being on the water. Keep the wind in your sails, Uncle Bubba and keep heading for the Sun. You will be greatly missed.

Judy Sparkman Langel - February 13, 2019 at 12:02 AM

JM

“ *What is it about DO NOT TAKE ANYTHING THAT I PUT UP HERE DO YOU PEOPLE NOT Understand and Comprehend? I wasn't just talking about My Great Aunt Jean Weaver,I mean DO NOT TAKE DOWN ANYTHING AT ALL FOR ANYONE THAT I PUT IN HONOR OF THEM!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! THAT'S NOT FOR ANYONE OTHER than the person who passed!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It's not for the family, it's not for Hopewell Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens, it belongs to the person who has passed and don't steal and take away something that belongs to someone who has passed and especially when they just passed! That's so disrespectful in so many ways!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I don't know who's taking down the stuff that I put up here, but knock it off!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! These gifts and candles that I light are for My Great Uncle Walter AKA Bubba! Leave it alone! Thank You!*

Jason Mattair - February 12, 2019 at 01:48 PM

JM

“ *Jason Mattair lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr.*



Jason Mattair - February 12, 2019 at 01:41 PM

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Jason Mattair - February 12, 2019 at 01:40 PM

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Jason Mattair - February 12, 2019 at 01:36 PM

Kent
Cassels

“ *Bubba loved his vitamin sea, and deserves the traditional Tennyson poem reserved for true sailors when they cross the bar...*

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.*

Kent Cassels - February 12, 2019 at 12:19 PM

AT

“ *ASI Customer Solutions Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Walter "Bubba" Christian Busk Jr..*



ASI Customer Solutions Team - February 12, 2019 at 12:15 PM

SB

“ I adored my Uncle Bubba! Such Sweet Memories Of Him! The Scent From His Pipe, I always thought that was so Cool! He’s the only one I’ve ever known to smoke a Pipe! The adoring way he Loved my Aunt Etta Mae, the way my Uncle Bubba enjoyed his 3 Children spending time with them was so Special to me💙 Spending the Night at their Home so so special I totally enjoy’d playing with my Cousins 🤗, listening to Chris Play the Piano. Attending LouAnns Wedding An Totally pig’ing out on Aunt Etta Mae’s Sweet FruitCocktail Salade still a Fav Of Mine. I will Love an Miss my Uncle Bubba Forever! He’s enjoying Heaven without Earthly Pain now,he’s with all his Love one’s who have gone before! I can only imagine the Great Loving Welcome he received at the Pearly Gates when my Sweet Uncle Arrived! I’m Saying Prayers for My Aunt, my Cousins & Their Children who are Grieving so much!!! Love an Miss you Always Uncle Bubba 🥹. My Love, Stephanie Ann Smith-Burse



stephanie Bursey - February 12, 2019 at 12:07 PM

LC

“ I have many fond memories of my Uncle Bubba, he was always pretty laid back when we visited and could take a nap even with all us kids running around and making noise. He was famous for his egg in the hole's he would cook up for us. I was fascinated with his pipe smoking, it seemed so sophisticated and even now, I think of him when I get a whiff of pipe tobacco. Bubba loved to talk to people, he was genuinely interested in you and whatever you might be doing. I will miss our conversations and his advice, not that I always took it. :-) He loved his family and life with a passion that never wavered. I will forever picture him sailing off into the sunset, with his pipe and a smile on his face. Love you always Uncle Bubba

Lynn Christenson - February 12, 2019 at 11:54 AM

SM

“ I was blessed to be a part of Bubba's life the last several months. He truly loved and appreciate Etta Mae and knew how blessed he was that she ALWAYS took care of everything. His love for his children was apparent as he would be excited knowing the count down of how many days before they would be there for a visit. I loved Poppy(as that's What I came to call him) for giving me the self esteem to know I could do anything I wanted to do. Or that he thought I needed to do. I enjoyed all the stories of the past, especially sailing. His family always had his best interests at heart and were first class to spend time with. As I am sad this season is over I will always remember how blessed I was to be an acquaintance to this wonderful family.

Susan Maguire - February 11, 2019 at 07:48 PM

WP

Wallace & Sarah Prophet, Gainesville

We were classmates of Bubba's in the old Plant City High School, Class of 1945. We played in the band and on the football team with him, as well as sharing in many great memories of our schooldays and activities in and out of school. Bubba was one of the more fun-loving of our class members. We remember the time he placed a small, harmless snake in the classroom desk drawer of our 10th grade English teacher, Mrs. Frances Hull. Mrs. Hull was probably our best teacher, was fun-loving herself, and certainly the best-loved of our teachers. But, needless to say, Mrs. Hull was not particularly amused when she discovered the snake in her desk. She immediately knew who the guilty party was and still was able to express her appreciation for Bubba's humor and cleverness. One could have characterized Bubba as the Class Clown, but he was loved by all of us. RIP Bubba/ We will miss you.

Wallace & Sarah Prophet - February 14, 2019 at 10:40 AM