



Albert Victor Rakus

May 5, 1948 - March 31, 2024

Albert "Al" Victor Rakus (known as Butch by his family) joined our Lord on March 31, 2024, in San Antonio, Texas. He was born on May 5, 1948, in Shamokin, Pennsylvania, to Albert V. Rakus and Margaret M. Zsido. His parents and Brother-in-law, Kevin Ferrell predeceased him in death. Al is survived by his loving wife of 37 years, Lisa (Hill) Rakus; brother, Joseph Vincent Rakus; In-laws, Tom and Margaret Ann Hill; Brother-in-law, Tom Hill Jr.; Sisters-in-law, Laura Clayton (Tom), Julie Collard (Jim), and Jennifer Ferrell; Nieces, Heather Wright (Joel), Amelia Reveley (Collin), Caitlin Collard, and Cassandra Hill; Nephews, Travis Clayton (Catie), Clark Clayton, Lance Clayton (Resa), Collin Collard, Jack Clayton, and Jacob Ferrell; Great Nephews, Nikoli Wright, Sumner Wright, and Korvin Wright.

Al attended Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic School in Pennsylvania. He moved on to Bishop Mc Devitt High School and graduated in 1966. Al signed up for the Air Force in May of 1967 and served 9 years in the USAF. He left the military in May of 1975 with honors and stayed in San Antonio, Texas.

Al was involved with the youth group at St. Matthew's, taught CCD classes, was in the choir and chaperoned field trips for the youth.

Al attended classes at the University of Texas at San Antonio where he

earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 1980 and continued on to earn a Teaching degree in 1987 with a concentration in History and P.E. Soon after receiving his teaching certificate, he and Lisa married.

In 1989, Al received a job offer at Klein ISD in the Houston area on a Friday, two weeks after school had started. He was asked to report to work on Monday. He drove to Houston on Sunday night to start his dream job the next day.

Al began his career teaching U.S. History and Texas History at Wunderlich Intermediate School and taught one year of girls P.E. He moved up to Klein Collins High School and taught U.S. History, World History, AP U.S. History and AP European history. Al was selected and honored as “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers” by his students four different times during his teaching career. He retired with 33 years of teaching. After retirement, he moved back to San Antonio with his wife. Since returning to San Antonio, he decided to substitute teach in NISD. He started at Jefferson Middle School, where his nephew Jacob attended. With Jacob’s initiation, Al was known as “the Judge” by the students at Jefferson. He then moved on to Stevenson Middle School. This school was where he did his student teaching many years prior. Stevenson was also his favorite and final school.

Al’s passion was to be a coach. He was very knowledgeable in football, basketball and baseball. While student teaching at Stevenson Middle School in San Antonio, he coached the basketball B team to a district win. He took pleasure in coaching CYO Basketball. He very much enjoyed watching his nephews play football, basketball and baseball. He would always provide pointers to help them be successful.

Al was prideful each time he attended a nephew’s piano concert. He was very impressed with their musical ability as he could not carry a tune.

Al was a collector of many things. He enjoyed looking at and driving muscle cars. He collected football, basketball and baseball cards, trains, Hot Wheels cars, Pez containers, die-cast cars, Star Wars, miniature wargaming figures, and Harry Potter items, etc. He always said that he collected almost everything.

Al was a kind soul, a people person, a good husband and he enjoyed life! He enjoyed conversing with anyone and everyone daily. He was loved deeply and is truly missed.

The family would like to sincerely thank the doctors and nurses at Christus Santa Rosa Hospital - Westover Hills for all the loving care they provided.

SERVICES

Visitation will be held on Sunday, April 21, 2024, from 5:00pm-8:00pm, with a Rosary at 7:00 pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 10:00 am at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, with a graveside service at 2:15 pm at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

For personal acknowledgement, please sign the online guestbook at www.missionparks.com in the Tributes section.

MISSION PARK FUNERAL CHAPELS NORTH
3401 CHERRY RIDGE DR.
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78230
(210) 349-1414

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 21. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Rosary

APR 21. 7:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Funeral Mass

APR **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Matthew Catholic Church
10703 Wurzbach Rd
San Antonio, TX 78230

Graveside Service and Interment

APR **22**. 2:15 PM (CT)

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Tribute Wall

TH

“ Tabitha and David Higgins purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Albert Victor Rakus.



Tabitha and David Higgins - April 20, 2024 at 02:16 PM

TH

“ Tabitha and David Higgins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Albert Victor Rakus.

Tabitha and David Higgins - April 20, 2024 at 02:16 PM

AP

“ Mr. Rakus substituted for me regularly in the AVID classroom at Stevenson. He was a dependable, hard working, friendly and relatable sub. I never worried about what my students were up to with him in the room-- he had it buttoned up for me! I know he enjoyed his time here with us, as we enjoyed him. Prayers for his family, he will be missed.

Adriana Price - April 19, 2024 at 05:10 PM

AA

“ Al was a kind and gentle person. Always there if someone had a problem. Loved history and sports. I miss those talks. God bless you Al. Now God and you can talk about sports and history.

Albert C. Alvarado - April 18, 2024 at 12:53 PM

MV

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Al when he would come into the credit union. He loved coming in to take Lisa to lunch on Taco Tuesday to get dose of Dairy Queen tacos. He was always happy and so easy to conversate with. He will be greatly missed. Let the memories you shared together comfort you and keep him alive in your heart always.

Michele Vasquez - April 17, 2024 at 12:59 PM

CS

“ Cris, Michele, Surangi purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Albert Victor Rakus.



Cris, Michele, Surangi - April 17, 2024 at 12:20 PM

RO

“ I met Al when Lisa would come help out at our many community events we held for work. I was always so glad when Lisa signed up to help because I knew Al would be right there with her to help out as well. I enjoyed talking to Al about his substitute teaching and how he enjoyed working with his students. Thank you Al for your help and the nice conversations, you will be missed dearly. My prayers are with you Lisa and your family. Rosanne 🙏🙏

Rosanne - April 11, 2024 at 12:12 AM

LN

“ Love, Netzie. purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Albert Victor Rakus.



Love, Netzie. - April 08, 2024 at 11:53 PM

LN

“ Love, Netzie. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Albert Victor Rakus.

Love, Netzie. - April 08, 2024 at 11:53 PM

PA

“ We always enjoyed running into Lisa and Al. He was always so cheerful and interested in how you were doing. Such a friendly kind caring person. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lisa during this very difficult time. Know that we all love and care about you. Pati and Doug



pati - April 08, 2024 at 09:27 PM

JK

“ I was always so excited to see Mr. Rakus in the hallways at Stevenson. He always had a smile and was great to talk to. Even though he wouldn't sub for me (he hated math class), I looked forward to seeing him anytime he was on campus. He always made sure to remind me about the friends of the library book sale. He knew I couldn't turn down the opportunity to get some great books. I will truly miss his beautiful smile. My thoughts are with Lisa and her family through this difficult time. Heaven has definitely gotten a great angel. I hope he's watching over us at Stevenson. Thank you Mr. Rakus for all you did to make this world a better place.

Janalle Koenigs, Stevenson Middle School

Janalle Koenigs - April 08, 2024 at 06:46 PM

LM

“ I worked with Lisa, Al's wife. Anytime we were decorating for different holidays, Al was always there helping. Such a kind, soft spoken and gentle man, he was. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Lisa. You and Al were so close and loved being with each other. Big hugs, Lisa. You know I am only a call away 🙏🙏🙏

Lesia Mihalov - April 08, 2024 at 12:08 PM

JG

“ I knew Al through work as a volunteer for The Friends of Igo Library. He worked hard, was kind, and dedicated to making a positive difference in our community. My condolences to his wife Lisa, his in-laws, friends and family.

Juanita C. Gomez, volunteer

Juanita C. Gomez - April 07, 2024 at 06:36 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Albert Victor Rakus.*



April 07, 2024 at 06:29 PM



“ *With Love - Landy and Teri Hill planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Albert Victor Rakus.*

With Love - Landy and Teri Hill - April 07, 2024 at 06:29 PM



“ *Al is the kindest person I have ever met in my life. I know he is very loved and will be missed by many. Long live “The Judge”!*



Jacob Ferrell - April 06, 2024 at 04:56 PM



“ *Great man, always had wonderful conversations and advice. He will be missed dearly.
You will be missed and not forgotten.*

Jonathan Beutnagel - April 05, 2024 at 11:17 PM

DW

“ *Mr. Rakus subbed for me many times, and now I am retired. Hard to imagine him not here and I certainly can't imagine Stevenson without him. I pray comfort for the family left behind for now. Job well done, Mr. Rakus.*

Denise Watson - April 05, 2024 at 07:22 PM

JM

“ *Remembering Al for his love of history and his good nature. My deepest condolences to Lisa and the family. May your happy memories sustain you and God's love comfort you.*

Jan McClintock - April 04, 2024 at 02:21 AM