



## Word G. Bizzell

August 9, 1933 - September 19, 2020

Lt. Col. Word Gibson Bizzell, retired, age 87, passed from this life on September 19, 2020. He was born in Cleveland, Mississippi on August 9, 1933 to Harvey McGraw Bizzell and Emmette Hall Bizzell. He graduated from Pensacola High School and enlisted in the United States Army. After four years of service he enrolled at U.C. Berkley being an honors graduate. He was awarded a commission as an officer in the United States Army and retired as a Lt. Col. after 20 more years of service.

He married Patricia Jean Alnutt on November 18, 1961 in Hawaii.

He will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia with Military Honors at a later date.

Word is preceded in death by his parents and seven brothers and sisters. He is survived by his wife of almost 59 years; son Donald Bizzell and granddaughter, Michelle Bizzell. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Word G. Bizzell* ”

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October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM

“ *The Bizzells have been a part of my family for nearly 50 years. We were deeply saddened to hear of Word’s passing and the Bizzell Family has been in our thoughts since that day.*

*Our relationship with the Bizzells began in the early 1970’s when they moved into the second-floor apartment across the stairwell from our apartment in Mark Twain Village, Heidelberg, Germany. That relationship continues to this day.*

*For the last nearly 50 years, various members of our families have travelled together and visited each other no matter where we lived; numerous treks were made between Oklahoma, Texas and Georgia. When our families were stairwell mates in Heidelberg, Donald Bizzell went camping and sledding with my family on numerous occasions and Colonel and Mrs. Bizzell also traveled with my parents. I can specifically recall trips they made to Paris, France and Munich, Germany. My Father has told me a story about when he, my Mom and Colonel and Mrs. Bizzell went to the Folies Bergère in Paris; during the performance, Colonel Bizzell fell asleep (a surprising reaction, if you know anything about the format of the show). I have included with this post a picture of my Mom and Mrs. Bizzell at a Bizzell home in Texas and a picture of Colonel Bizzell in Paris.*

*I have a multitude of vivid memories of Colonel Bizzell and the Bizzell Family and am grateful for them. I thought it would be appropriate to share a few.*

*I remember when Colonel and Mrs. Bizzell bought their first Mercedes in Germany. Within a few days of buying it, Mrs. Bizzell took us for a drive on the Autobahn. I recall seeing the speedometer register the equivalent of 120 mph and remember noticing my Mom’s white knuckles as an attestation to that speed. I also remember conversations between my parents and Colonel and Mrs. Bizzell as to why they did not buy a Mercedes with a sunroof. Apparently, during a test drive of one with a sunroof, there was an*

*incident with a bird, convincing Mrs. Bizzell that the “no sunroof option” was the smarter choice.*

*The Bizzells also drove an aquamarine blue Citroen (or Renault) Hatchback in Germany (it looked a bit like a brightly colored sardine tin). On May 24, 1972, Colonel and Mrs. Bizzell were in their Citroen (or Renault) on base driving near the Officers’ Club and Movie Theatre when two car bombs driven onto the base by members of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist organization exploded in their vicinity. Their Citroen (or Renault) took heavy shrapnel damage and I recall inspecting that damage when the car was parked outside our apartments. I was amazed that neither of them was injured or even killed; I specifically remember a baseball-size shrapnel hole in the driver’s side door located right where the driver’s legs would be. They were amazingly lucky!*

*My fondest memory of Colonel Bizzell was that he was a voracious reader. I recall that virtually every time I would visit their apartment in Germany (which was quite often), he had his head in a book. By his example, I too am an avid reader; he instilled in me a love of books and the written word. On a more humorous note, as a pre-teen and teen in Germany, I always wondered whether Colonel Bizzell was named Word because he liked to read or he liked to read because he was named Word. I eventually concluded it could not be the former, as I cannot imagine he did much reading as a baby when he would have first been named (I could be wrong on this; he liked to read that much!). Nevertheless, I was always pleasantly amused that a man named Word was such an insatiable reader.*

*The Texas Caputs (Robert, Margaret and Bryan), Margaret’s Mom, Sarah, and the Georgia Caputs (Bill and John) will dearly miss Colonel Bizzell. Please know that we extend our sincerest condolences and the Bizzell Family will continue to be in our prayers.*

*Robert Caput, On Behalf of the Caputs and Sarah Jones*



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**Robert Caput** - October 01, 2020 at 04:36 PM

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**Robert Caput** - October 01, 2020 at 04:28 PM



“ *Word was my hero. We've not seen him in several years but when we did, he would light up the room. He was very very intelligent and had graduated with honors from prestigious universities. He was a brilliant attorney and soldier. But most of all, he was our dear dear friend. You can count those kind of Special friends on one hand. He was a great guy, who my family just thought the world of Word Bizzell. Our hearts and thoughts are with the Word Bizzells Family and Friends. God be with you.*



*Love you,  
Most Respectfully,  
The Ricky Leighs Family  
Hernando, Mississippi*

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**Thericky Leighfamily** - September 21, 2020 at 04:05 PM