



## Merle Freeman Oglesby

March 27, 1925 - April 9, 2022

Merle Freeman Oglesby, 97, went home to be with his Savior April 9th, 2022.

Freeman was born March 27th 1925 to parents Ralph and Eunice Oglesby in Kansas City, Missouri. He started his music career by singing in a boy's choir in Kansas City at an early age. He enlisted in the Army at the age of 19 and served in WW II as a flight engineer and mechanic on the B-29 airplane. Freeman went on to attend Kansas University in Lawrence and was an accomplished musician, vocally and on the piano and organ.

He is preceded in death by his first wife, Buzzy Oglesby, with whom he raised four children in Ashland, Nebraska. He was active in the school system and the Ashland Christian Church. He also served as President of the Full Gospel Businessman's Association in Omaha, Nebraska.

Freeman moved to Laurel, Mississippi and worked for Sanderson Farms as Fleet Manager until retirement. He attended Word of Life Church in Laurel, MS where he met Donna who became his wife. He lovingly helped raise her daughter, Jennifer, and grandchildren, Hannah and Jace and was known as Grampy to many who knew him. He became an active member of Grace Covenant Church in Ellisville where he served on the board for 15 years. Freeman enjoyed playing piano, working out and spending time with his large family. He was a loving Husband, Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather.

He is survived by his wife Donna Oglesby, and his children, Dave Oglesby from Phoenix, AZ , Tim Oglesby from Buehler, KS, Melissa Gevo from Atlanta, GA , Suzy Johnson from Lincoln, NE, and Jennifer Jackson from Laurel, MS. Freeman also has 15 Grandchildren and 33 Great grandchildren.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 14th from 5-7 p.m. at Memory Chapel in Laurel, MS. Funeral Services will be held at Grace Covenant Church, 100 Grace Lane, Ellisville, MS at 2:00 p.m. Friday April 15th.

Additional visitation will be held in Lincoln, NE on Wednesday April 20th from 5-7 p.m. at Roper and Son's Funeral Home, 4300 O Street Lincoln, NE. Burial service to be held at Lincoln Memorial Park Cemetery, 6800 S 14th St., Lincoln, NE on Thursday April 21st at 11:00 a.m.

To sign the online guest book, visit [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **14.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home  
3100 Audubon Drive  
P. O. Box 674  
Laurel, MS 39440  
(601) 428-5235  
memorychapel@comcast.net  
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

## Service

APR **15.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Grace Covenant World Ministries  
100 Grace Lane  
Ellisville, MS 39437

# Tribute Wall

WT

“ *During our couple of years at Grace Covenant, Mr Freeman and I were counselors on Wednesday, the day they gave out free food. I got to know him very good. He was a wealth of information and awesome testimonials. He will be missed, and we'll visit in Glory!*  
*Wayne Touchstone*

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**Wayne Touchstone** - April 15, 2022 at 09:48 PM

BW

“ *"Our loss is Heaven's gain"! Freeman was truly a great man and servant of God. He will truly be missed. Our hearts go out to Donna and the family and our prayers are with you.*

*Bob and Dot Wilkerson*

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**Bob and Dot Wilkerson** - April 14, 2022 at 10:14 AM

LB

“ *Donna, Jennifer, Hannah, Jace*

*I know you will miss Freeman immensely. He loved all of you dearly. He is such an amazing man. A true Warrior for the Lord. He is the best example of what a husband, father, and grandfather should be like. The Heavens are rejoicing. Praying for all of you during this time.*

*Love, Lisa Chancellor Bailey*

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**Lisa Bailey** - April 14, 2022 at 07:53 AM

AC

“ All my love, Karen Curtis purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Merle Freeman Oglesby.



All my love, Karen Curtis - April 13, 2022 at 05:10 PM

AW

“ Sorrowing yet rejoicing with you over Freeman's Home Going...  
Good Friend, Truly a Man of Great Faith & Prayer...  
Love & Prayers to all of you, Arlene Windham  
🙏



Arlene Windham - April 13, 2022 at 05:33 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Merle Freeman Oglesby.



April 12, 2022 at 09:33 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Merle Freeman Oglesby.



April 12, 2022 at 10:25 AM

TG

“ Freeman was a great father in law to me and was used greatly by God to influence many lives for Christ. In addition to his many Godly endeavors, he was the one who taught me how to tie a tie! Always ready to listen and provide Godly advice...

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**Tony Gevo** - April 12, 2022 at 08:49 AM

TG

“ Tony & Jane Gevo purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Merle Freeman Oglesby.



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**Tony & Jane Gevo** - April 12, 2022 at 08:44 AM

SZ

“ I worked with Mr. Freeman at Bop's. He was such a kind and intelligent person. When I learned he had served in WWII, I was fascinated and I asked so many questions. He always took the time to answer and he was so humble. He was very wise about life and shared that wisdom with all us youngsters. He was a true Christian and a great example for us. I know he was so in love with his family, and I pray for them to feel comfort and peace during this time.

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**Sara L. Zavala** - April 11, 2022 at 10:37 PM

TW

“ Condolences for Donna and blessings to all of the family.

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**Thomas Walker** - April 11, 2022 at 09:43 PM

ST

*So sorry Donna and family for your loss. I have great memories of Freeman playing the piano at church. He was so very talented. God bless and give you comfort in knowing you will see him again one sweet day. Love and prayers. ❤️*

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**Sandra Tew** - April 12, 2022 at 03:03 PM

JP

*I remember Uncle Maurice saying Freeman was the best thing that ever happened to Donna and he was so right. They loved each other unconditionally and Donna was sure freeman hung the moon just for her. Theirs was truly a beautiful love story from beginning to end. The story will never end because Freeman will live in Donna's heart until they meet again in heaven.*

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**judy Pilgrim** - April 12, 2022 at 08:58 PM

DO

“ Freeman was the father of 4 children with his first wife, Erma "Buzzy" Oglesby: David, Timothy, Melissa and Suzy. He was an amazing pianist and was a Flight Engineer on a B-29 bomber during WWII as a member of the Army Air Force. He worked for a transportation equipment rentals company in Omaha, then truck leasing in Little Rock, AR and in Jackson, MS before beginning work at Sanderson Farms as a fleet manager until age 75 when he retired in Laurel, MS. He enjoyed visiting his family in Nebraska each year at Thanksgiving and seeing his grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow. Freeman loved his big birthday celebration with his family in Laurel in March 2021 and asked what we were doing for him the next year. LOL

We trust he is happy in his heavenly home and is one of God's pianists. He was loved by many and will be missed and remembered for a long time!



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Dave & Cherrie Oglesby - April 11, 2022 at 07:40 PM