



## Gerald (Jerry) Jules Bertinot, Jr.

February 22, 1941 - January 21, 2021

Gerald Jules Bertinot, Jr., was a son of Louisiana, who saw much of the world as a soldier, FBI agent, and a federal prosecutor. He could shoot straighter, ride longer on his beloved Harleys, and read more history books than just about anyone. Jerry loved his family, his country, bluegrass and passing a good time. He was a man's man who made friends easily and kept them forever. He was the heart of an adventure, and he was always in search of the next journey. He could tell a good story, keeping his audience rapt with attention.

Jerry was born in Sunset, LA the son of Dr. Gerald Jules Bertinot and Dimples Brown Bertinot. Some of Jerry's earliest memories were traveling with his father on the country roads around Sunset, sometimes by horse and buggy providing medical care to his patients, and delivering babies.

He attended Cathedral Carmel Elementary, Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville, GA, and then graduated from The Citadel in Charleston, SC where he won top marksmanship honors and was captain of the rifle team. He then earned his law degree at the University of South Carolina in 1962.

That same year he married the love of his life and Yambilee Queen, Brenda Rita Thibodeaux of Church Point. They were married 58 years and Jerry was always mesmerized by her beauty, sometimes just stopping to admire her and to speak of his love for her when she walked into a room.

He was assigned to Military Intelligence in the Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded a Bronze Medal for his service. Following his service he joined the FBI and was assigned to offices in Arizona, Los Angeles, New Orleans and finally Lafayette, serving 13 years. He then joined the U. S. Department of Justice as an Assistant U. S. Attorney, in Lafayette where he served for 18 years, the final years as Chief of the Criminal Division.

Following retirement, he joined the Lafayette Police Academy where he served as a

firearms instructor and taught procedures on the rule of law, and then was named Chief of Police for the University of Louisiana, at Lafayette. At age 66 Jerry then served two tours in Afghanistan as part of the Department of Justice Counter Narcotics Program which advised and mentored the Afghan Counter Narcotics effort.

He is survived by his wife Brenda Bertinot of Lafayette, daughter Chantel Bertinot Dunham of Athens, GA, son Gerald (Jerry) Bertinot III of Lafayette, sister Andrea Bertinot of Lafayette, and niece Sara Lines Jones of Vera Beach, FL.

He and Brenda traveled throughout Europe and Russia. Some of his most memorable adventures were enjoyed on the seat of his Harley including trips to New Mexico, Colorado, Sturgis, South Dakota and Alaska. He excelled at many things and was always an expert marksman and enjoyed decades with many friends on golf courses around the US and Europe. Love of country was at the heart of his life and career and is the legacy he leaves his family and community. Due to Covid the family will celebrate his life at another time. His ashes will be placed in his father, Dr. Bertinot's "grip" physician's bag and will rest at St. Charles Cemetery in Grand Coteau.

View the obituary and guestbook online at [www.mourning.com](http://www.mourning.com)

Martin & Castille-DOWNTOWN-330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-234-2311

# Comments

---



“ Condolences to family. I sendt Merry Christmas mail last year and received no answer for first time, and this year also. Then I found this. I spent time in Afghanistan with Jerry in 2007/2008. What an honorable man. In good shape and so nice to everyone. Policeofficer and teacher. Rest in peace Jerry. Trond Jensen/Norway. norwayjensen@gmail.com . 24.12.2021. I will miss You.

**Trond Jensen** - December 24, 2021 at 06:38 AM

---



“ OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO MS.BRENDA AND FAMILY

**JAMIE KURILLA** - February 03, 2021 at 10:51 AM

---



“ Our deepest condolences to Brenda, her children and my cousin Andrea and hers.  
Ray Boy Dugal

**Ray L Dugal** - January 27, 2021 at 02:54 PM

---



“ Bren, we are so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Marty & Mabel Guidry.

**Marty C. Guidry** - January 26, 2021 at 05:22 PM

---



“ RIP Jerry. We all have a new guardian angel

**Pat Sheffield** - January 26, 2021 at 07:51 AM

---



“ Dear Brenda,  
After reading Jerry's obituary, I can see that he lived life to the fullest. It was such an awesome tribute to an amazing man, father and husband.  
Michael and I send our prayers and condolences to you and your children. During this difficult time in your life, hold tight to all the amazing memories you shared.  
God bless...  
Judy & Michael Guidry  
New address since November 2017:  
2921 Goose Creek Ln  
Murfreesboro TN 37128

**Judy Miller Guidry** - January 25, 2021 at 05:30 PM

---



“ Dear Brenda, I am so sorry for your loss. I have such wonderful memories of Jerry. He helped me with my cases at the U.S. Attorney's Office and also helped me with my golf game when a group of us from the office travelled to Florida. I still remember riding on his very special Gold Wing with a stereo,. He was like a big brother to me.  
Cristina Walker (I

**cristina walker** - January 25, 2021 at 12:39 PM

---



“ Brenda, please accept my deepest sympathy on the death of your husband, Jerry. I hope you will find peace and comfort in recalling happy memories of the life you shared with him. God bless you and keep you in his care.  
Bettie Skains Sonnier

**Bettie Skains Sonnier** - January 25, 2021 at 11:04 AM

---



“ Jerry was a lot of fun to be around and enjoyed getting to know him and his beautiful wife Brenda on our trips with the Acadiana Cup! A true gentleman, veteran and friend.

Bob and Melissa Hardy

**Bob Hardy** - January 25, 2021 at 12:08 AM

---



“ Joseph San Salvador III lit a candle in memory of Gerald (Jerry) Jules Bertinot, Jr.



Joseph San Salvador III - January 24, 2021 at 09:54 PM

---



“ He was indeed a man's man and will be deeply missed. I had worked with him on occasion when he was an FBI agent here in Lafayette, After I retired from State Police I went to work at the USL Police Department where Jerry was Chief. He came to work on his motorcycle. Everybody there loved him. He defended his people ,but didn't put up with any nonsense. He was the best Chief USL ever had. My deepest condolences to the family. May God's Peace and Love surround you.  
Retired Master Trooper Louisiana State Police Joseph San Salvador III

Joseph San Salvador III - January 24, 2021 at 09:53 PM

---



“ Brenda,

Praying for all of you during this time of grief. Always remember the good times and hold tight to the love that he had for you. May Our Lord bring him into his bountiful mercy. God bless.

Stick and Lisa Thibodeaux - January 24, 2021 at 08:13 PM



“ So sorry for your loss, I went to Riverside with Jerry and I coached Jerry III. Jerry was always a great friend and when you needed him he was always willing to help when ever needed. We here at Riverside will miss our Brother in Blue and hope that Jerry will RIP. God bless.

Errol Bisso - January 25, 2021 at 03:39 PM

---



“ Brenda, I'm so very sorry to hear of Jerry's passing, and pray peace and comfort for you and your family. .

Ginger Fontenot Young - January 24, 2021 at 01:37 PM



“ Dear Brenda and family, Gregg and I are praying for you and your family as you grieve the loss of your dear Jerry!

**Judy Thibodeaux** - January 24, 2021 at 10:07 AM

---



“ So sorry for the family's loss. Dr Bertinot was my childhood's family doctor for 3 or 4 generations / Such a kind humble man , yes we were one of families he made house calls to. Love and prayers

**Emma Gay Bertrand** - January 24, 2021 at 08:24 AM

---



“ Jerry was my Supervisor in the U.S Attorney's Office in Lafayette for many years. I considered him a best friend and spoke with him a number of times over the years after we retired. We didn't get to play our last game of golf together. I will miss him. Brenda and children, my family will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

**Larry Regan** - January 23, 2021 at 11:33 PM

---



“ It is with great sadness today that I learned of the passing of my good friend Gerald "Jerry" Bertinot, Jr.. I first met Jerry in the mid 1970's when he was a Special Agent with the FBI, and we became better friends as I started my career in law enforcement. He was a great mentor to all law enforcement professionals, and he always had time to share "life experiences" with everyone. My deepest condolences go out to his loving wife Brenda and his entire family at this time of mourning and loss. He will be greatly missed by all that knew and respected him! Rest in Peace Jerry it's time to come home.

**Craig P. Hebert** - January 23, 2021 at 06:53 PM



“ Gary and I send our condolences to the family. Jerry was a fount of historical information. He lived a rich and interesting life and we enjoyed the travels we shared with him and Brenda. To Andrea, we send our hugs as well.

**evelyn and Gary Smith** - January 23, 2021 at 10:26 PM



“ I am very sorry to hear of the passing of your father. Chantel please know that you and your family are in my prayers.

**Lisa** - January 23, 2021 at 11:29 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Brenda, Chantel, Lil Jerry & Sister Andrea, Gerry was a Dear friend all his life to me, RIP

**Joyce Brasseaux** - January 24, 2021 at 01:08 AM



“ Brenda I was so sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very difficult time. Y'all had a beautiful and fun filled life and so many wonderful memories. Love and prayers to you my dear friend. 🙏

**Disne Credeur** - January 24, 2021 at 10:29 AM



“ Chantel, Ms. Brenda, Jerry and Andrea,  
So very sorry to learn of the Mr. Jerry's passing. Keeping all in prayer and in my heart at this sorrowful time, may you find comfort and peace in your sweet memories always.

**Susan Barry Reed** - January 24, 2021 at 01:56 PM



“ Brenda I am so sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. I first met Jerry in 1978 as a young federal prosecutor in Baton Rouge. He had executed a search warrant on a major bookmaker in Baton Rouge that I prosecuted. He made that search stand up in the 5th Circuit. After I got to Lafayette in 1982, he prosecuted several cases that I defended. Jerry was always straight up; he was described as a "man's man" and I agree. I remember when he told me he was going to the near east in his 60s. I just laughed; that was Jerry. Jerry honorably served his Country for over 50 years and never thought about it. His was truly a life well lived.

**Mike Hill** - January 24, 2021 at 05:15 PM



“ Brenda, Molly and I send you our deepest condolences on the passing of Jerry. I interacted with Jerry when when he was the Chief of the Criminal Division as Assistant U.S. Attorney in Lafayette and I was a defense attorney.  
From the moment I first met him I knew that I was in the presence of a special and gifted man. He was a man who listened better than any prosecutor I have ever known on both the state and federal level in 52 years of practice. He would later with a smile hand your case back to you with a brilliant understanding of it, a sense of

humor and a tough compassion.

He was a man of genuine toughness and honor with a great deal of humility which is rare in our field of law. If I had to cite someone who he reminded of I would cite the late Judge John Shaw.

Jerry left an indelible mark for goodness and justice in the law.

He will be missed. We will not see his like pass this way again but the ripple effect of his life is endless.

Tommy Guilbeau

**Tommy Guilbeau** - January 24, 2021 at 11:24 PM