



Charles Eugene "Gene" Leggett

August 14, 1939 - February 27, 2026

Charles Eugene "Gene" Leggett, 86, of Fruitland Park, Florida, passed away peacefully on February 27, 2026, in Tavares, Florida. Known and loved by many simply as "Papa," he was born on August 14, 1939, in Black, Alabama, and grew up in Webster, Florida, where he would lay the foundation for a life defined by hard work, dedication, and an enormous, giving heart.

Gene graduated from Webster High School in 1957 and went on to attend Lake Sumter Community College, later furthering his education through numerous technological schools in connection with the United Telephone Company. He dedicated his career to United Telephone Company of Florida, retiring at age 54. A man of many talents, Gene was also a self-employed photographer, operating Leggett Photography from 1976 to 2006, a passion that allowed him to capture life's most precious moments for countless families.

Gene was a proud member of the Rotary Club and the Professional Photographers of Florida, and found great joy in worshipping at Whitney Christian Ministries Worship Center. He also gave generously of his time coaching softball leagues, a testament to his love of community and his desire to invest in the lives of young people.

For nearly 68 years, Gene shared his life with his beloved wife, Virginia Lou

Clark. Together they built a beautiful family and a home full of love and laughter. He is survived by his children, Myron C. Leggett (Tammy), Deree L. Trenholm, and Alesha K. Irwin (Scott); six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; three siblings; and numerous nieces and nephews. Gene was preceded in death by his son, Marty R. Leggett, O.D., and his daughter-in-law Sandy M. Leggett.

In his leisure time, Gene loved camping, traveling, and making memories in the mountains of North Carolina. He was always the Southern gentleman, the sweetest, kindest, and most gentle man anyone ever had the privilege of meeting. His warm presence and gracious spirit touched everyone who knew him, and he will be deeply missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in Gene's memory to Cornerstone Hospice Tavares or the Alzheimer's Association.

Service Information

Visitation

Friday, March 6, 2026

2:00 – 4:00 PM and 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory

1123 W Main St, Leesburg, FL 34748

Celebration of Life Service

Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 10:00 AM

First Baptist Church Leesburg

Burial Service

Saturday, March 7, 2026

Lone Oak Cemetery

306 Thomas Avenue, Leesburg, FL 34748

Cemetery Details

Lone Oak Cemetery

306 Thomas Avenue
Leesburg, FL 34748

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 6. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory - Leesburg
1123 W Main St
Leesburg, FL 34748
(352) 787-4343

Visitation

MAR 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory - Leesburg
1123 W Main St
Leesburg, FL 34748
(352) 787-4343

Celebration of Life

MAR 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Leesburg
220 N. 13th Street
Leesburg, FL 34748

Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Charles Eugene "Gene" Leggett*



Beyers Funeral Home - March 05 at 09:44 AM

SM

“ *I remember gene since I was about 5 years old he was always so kind to me and I will always remember the fond memories he truly was a southern gentleman*

shauna maynard - March 05 at 09:07 AM

GB

“ *Gene was a professional, kind, gentle spirit. He did two weddings in our family at First Baptist and have I been around him many others times through the years with other events. There was no doubt he was a Christian with his actions, words and deeds. Gary Blanchard*

Gary Blanchard - March 04 at 08:37 AM

DP

“ *I remember him and Mrs Leggett doing my brother and sister in law's wedding photos. They were so cute and worked so well together. So patient and the smile he had was just so great. Our deepest sympathies to your family.*

Dory Ponds - March 03 at 09:12 PM

EC

“ I have many wonderful memories of "Nugene"... he was not just a cousin, he was a friend, a family-man, a God-fearing man. His humor was so unique.... his dad-jokes were dad-jokes before dad-jokes were cool. He had a passion for being a photographer; and loved being able to "photograph those events" with his side-kick Ginger! I could go on and on, after all I've known him since 1970....today the happiest thought I have of Eugene: he's walking those Streets of Gold, taking in ever moment, watching every thing, slowly-deliberately, and in Eugene-fashion. He's at Peace.... Rest now Eugene; we'll watch out for Ginger!

Erika L Corley - March 03 at 01:27 PM

HG

“ Hank & Brenda Grubb lit a candle in memory of Charles Eugene "Gene" Leggett



Hank & Brenda Grubb - March 03 at 07:54 AM

HB

We have such good memories of Eugene and the family. We all attended South Leesburg Church of God and shared the love of God. He will truly be missed.

Hank & Brenda - March 03 at 07:58 AM

KE

“ Kathryn Gentry Elliott lit a candle in memory of Charles Eugene "Gene" Leggett



Kathryn Gentry Elliott - March 03 at 07:27 AM

KE

*What a wonderful, kind, & gentle man he was.
He will truly be missed.
May God bless his family & give them peace & comfort during this
difficult time. 🙏❤️🙏🌸*

Kathryn Gentry Elliott - March 03 at 07:30 AM

AA

*“ Man, how can you classify Eugene as except one of the nicest,
kindest, gentlest men ever. What an impact he has had on
Leesburg. Was the consummate professional, extremely talented,
and I loved working with him.*

Art Ayris - March 02 at 08:51 PM

DW

*“ It was great knowing Eugene and going to school with him and his
family. Greatest memory was riding on the school bus together with
him and his siblings. A very kind and caring person. He will be
missed. Prayers for all!*

Dorothy Williams - March 02 at 08:29 PM