

Burgess Sams

November 28, 1929 - July 4, 2022

When I Must Leave You

When I must leave you

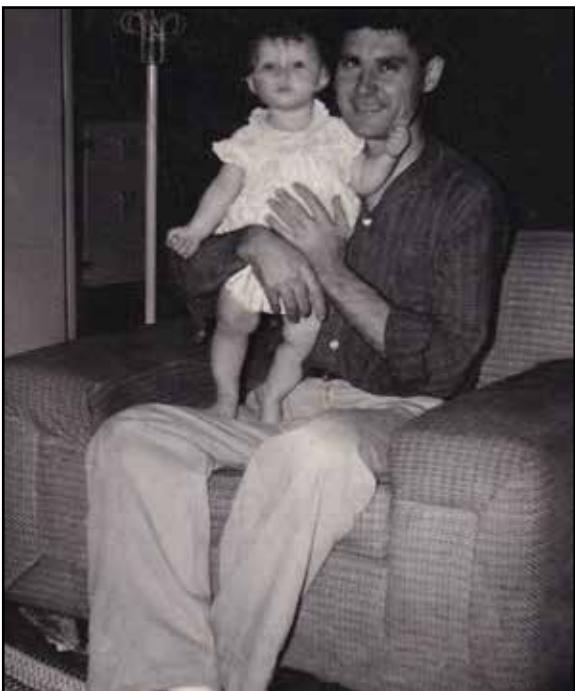
*For a little while-
Please do not grieve
And shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you
Through the years,*

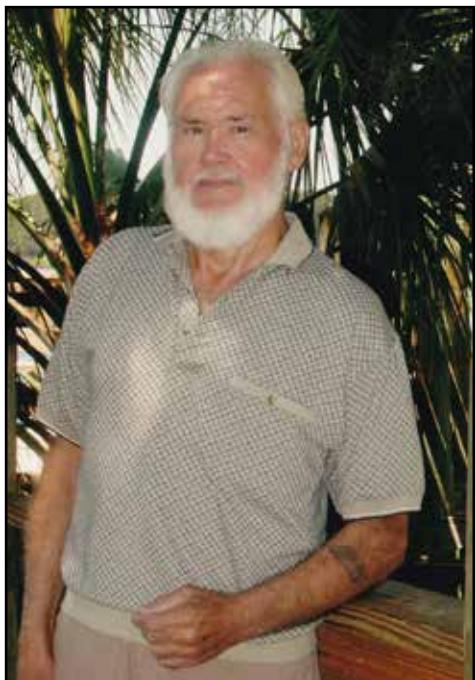
*But start out bravely
With a gallant smile;
And for my sake
And for my name
Live on and do
All things the same,*

*Feed not your loneliness
On empty days,
But fill each waking hour
In useful ways,*

*Reach out your hand
In comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you
And hold you near;*

*And never, never
Be afraid to die
For I am waiting for you in the sky!*





Burgess (Sammy) Sams, beloved father, brother, and grandpa passed away on July 4, 2022, at home. Sammy was born in Livingston, Kentucky on November 28, 1929, to Alfred Andrew Sams and Maggie Mae (Clark) Sams. The sixth of nine children, Sammy's tenacity and deep sense of responsibility developed at a young age from working on the family farm after the untimely passing of his father.

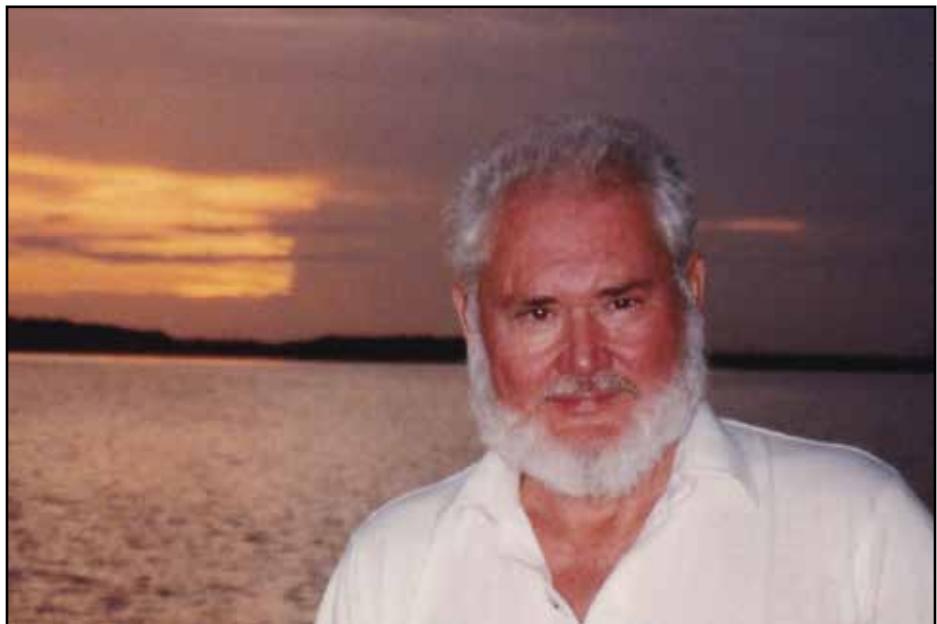
At seventeen, he joined the army and completed his GED during boot camp to become a

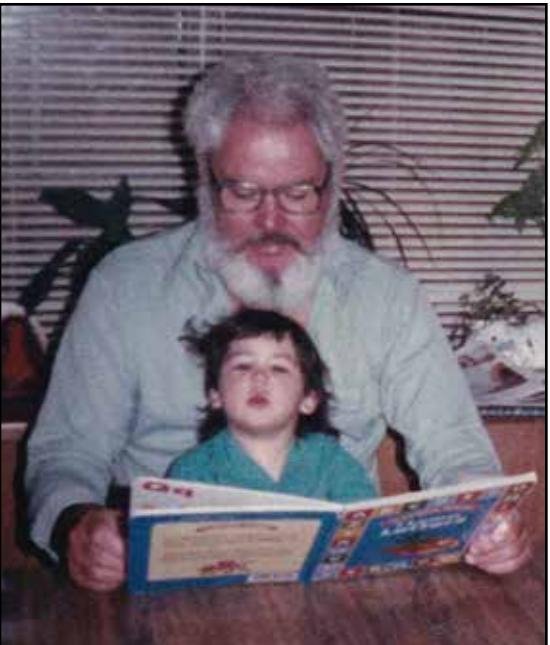
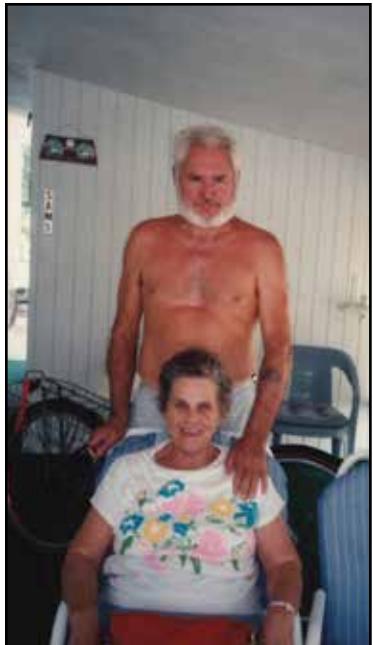
Private of the 187th Airborne Rangers 3rd Company. While serving deployment in Korea his unit was dropped behind enemy lines in the dark of the night on a special mission. Sammy's parachute was caught in a tree, and he was left hanging in the dark. Although he heard explosions all around him, he was unable to free himself until morning. He eventually located and reconnected with the troops after hiding out in various foxholes as he moved along. Some of the details of this mission have been highlighted in a book entitled Regular Army Corporal by Richard D. Elmers. Upon his honorable discharge, Sammy received the Combat Infantry Badge Korean Service Medal with two bronze Service Stars for service to his country. He maintained his love for America and the Army throughout his life, and his service sparked the fire of adventure that took him all over the world through his travels and kept him riding rollercoasters well into his 80's.

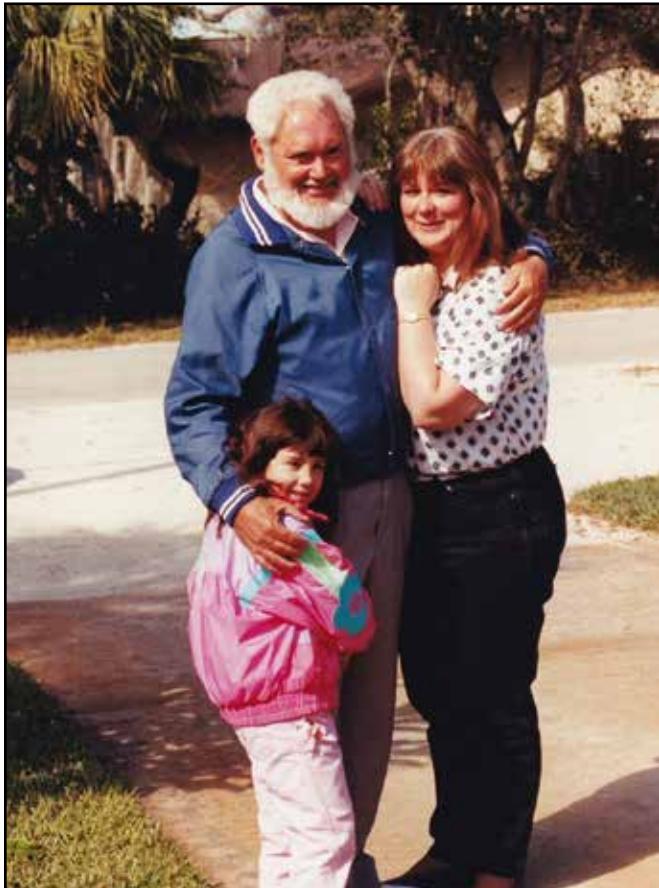
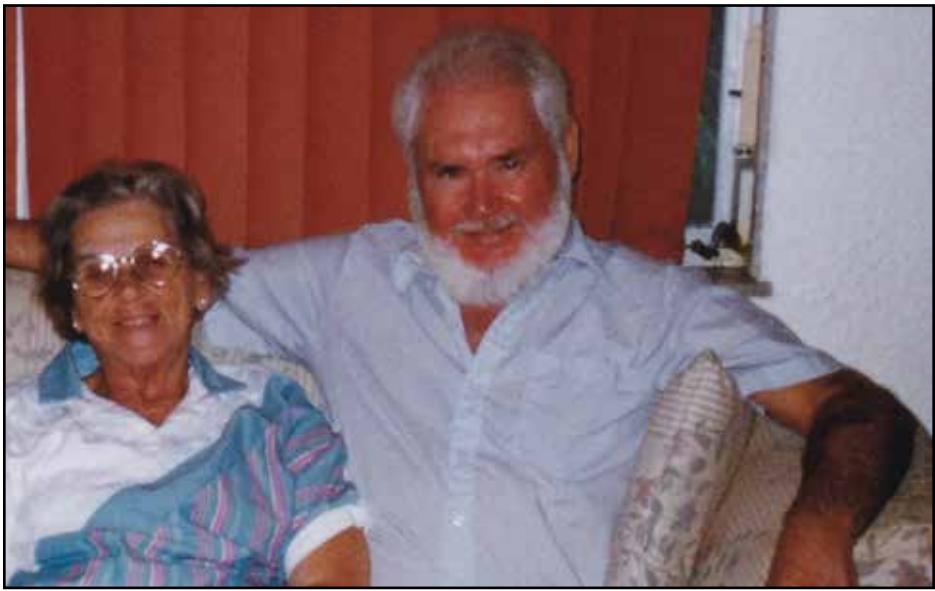
Following the Korean war, Sammy became a successful plant manager for the companies of Boise Cascade, Elgin Corrugated and Inland Containers. He married his true love, Wanda in Indiana on June 8, 1957, and they had one daughter, Joyce, born November 17, 1958. After years of opening and managing plants across the country, at 55 Sammy retired with Wanda to New Smyrna Beach, Florida where they spent many happy years with great friends before moving to Texas to live with Joyce and her husband Jonathon and their daughter Kelly.

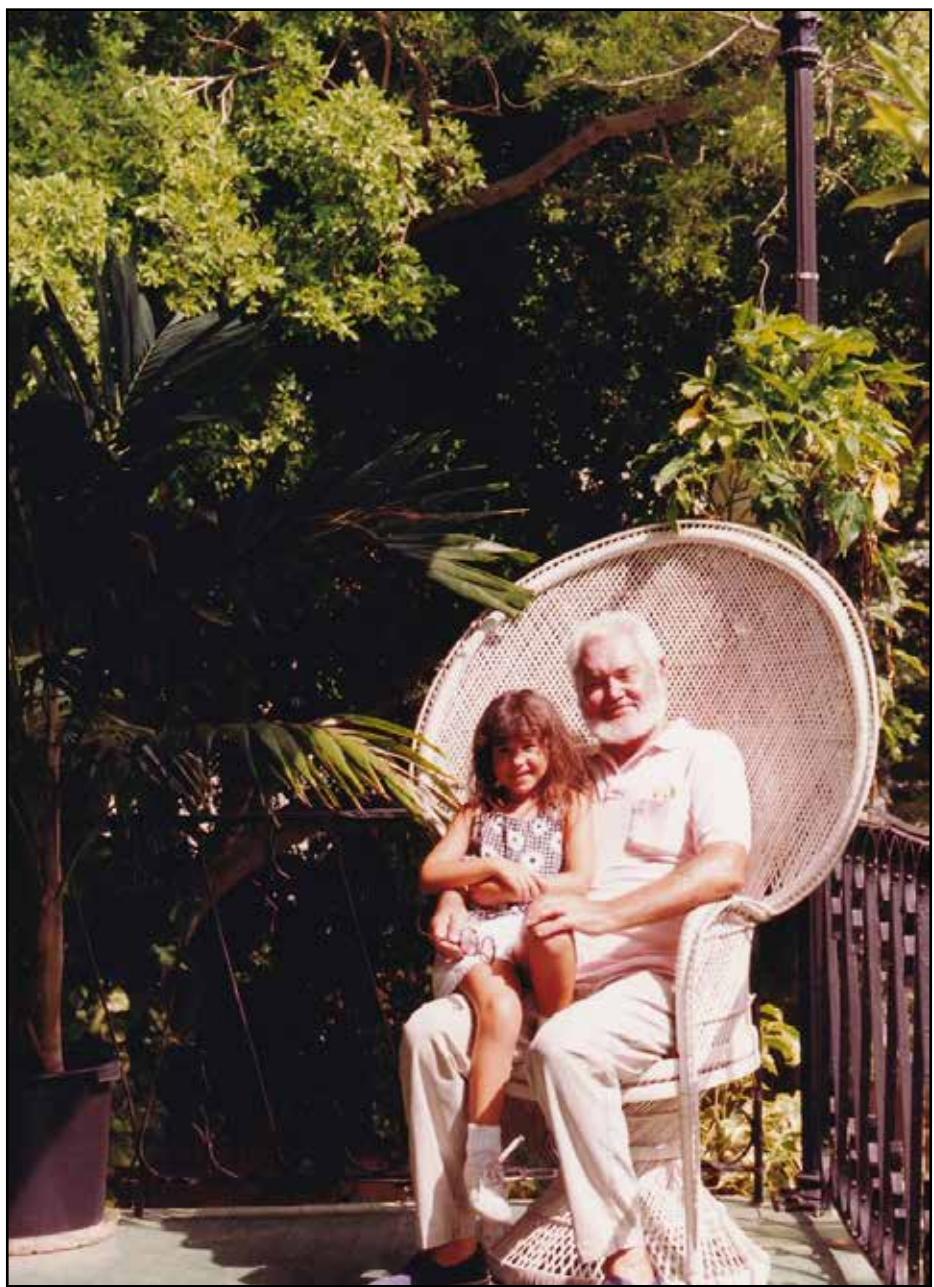
He leaves behind his devoted daughter, Joyce Gomez and her husband Jonathon; granddaughter, Kelly Todd (née Gomez) and husband Philip; stepchildren, Hubie Sams and Louise Raines and their families; brothers Fred Sams and wife Christine; and Herman Sams; and numerous nieces and nephews throughout the country.

Sammy is preceded in death by his loving wife, Wanda Sams, as well as his parents and 6 of his siblings.

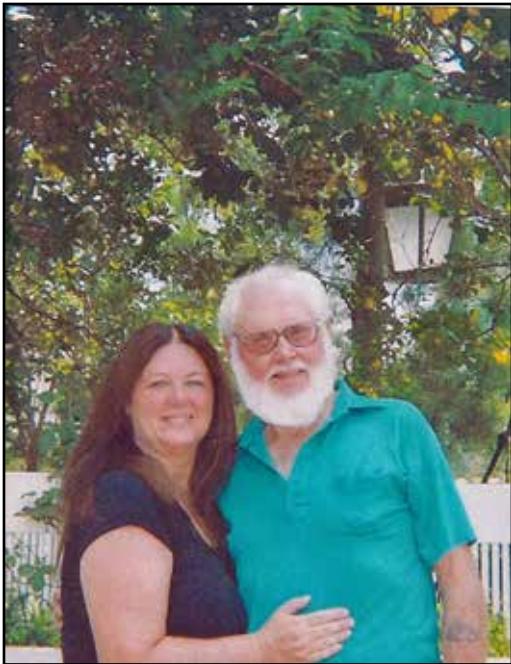


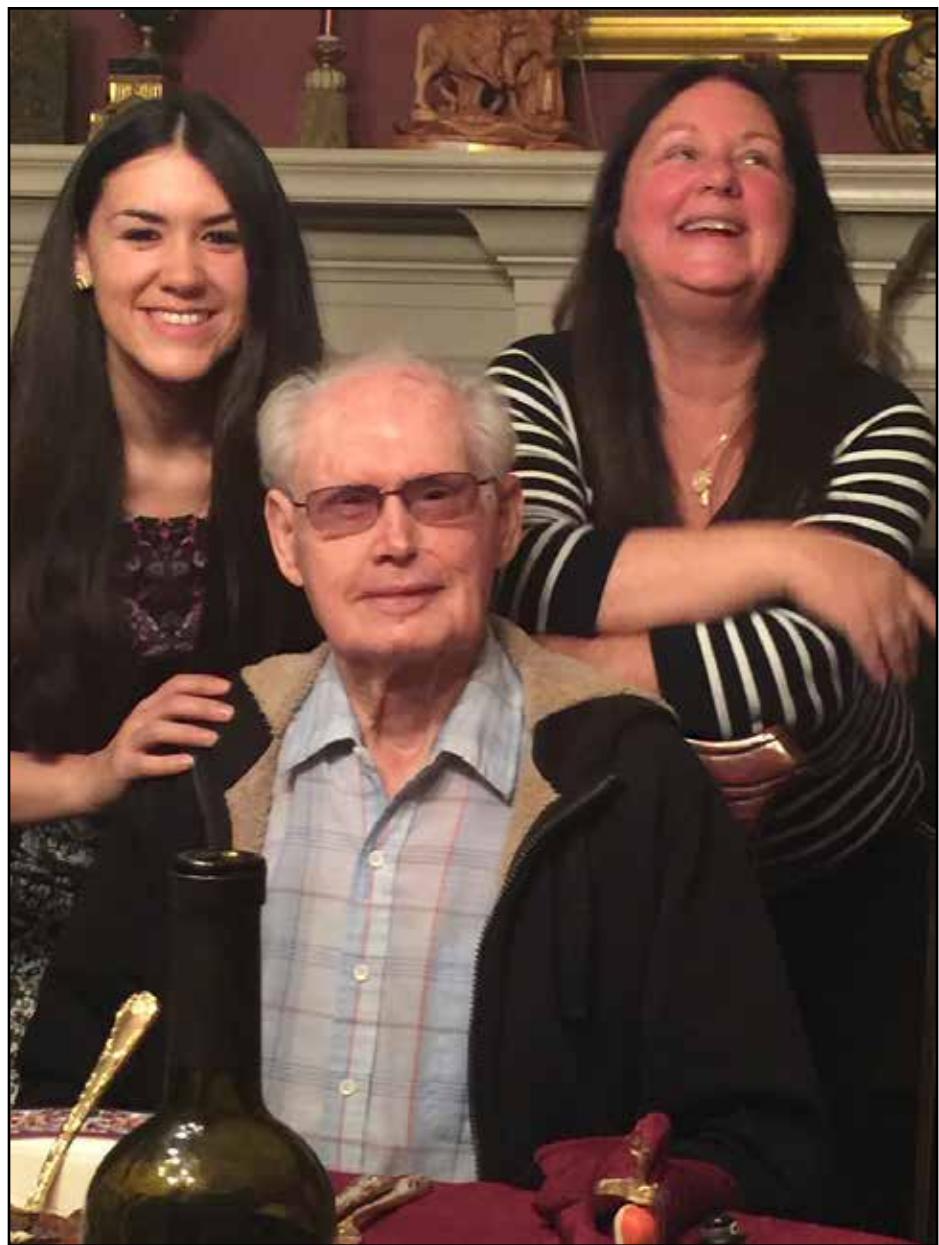














Graveside Service
Friday, July 8, 2022 11:00 a.m.
Magnolia Cemetery
Beaumont, Texas
Reverend Andrew R. Moore

Military Honors
United States Army
Southeast Texas Veterans Service Group

Memorial Contributions
Veterans of Foreign Wars
1882 Park Street
Beaumont, Texas 77701

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Established 1889

Please sign Mr. Sams' guest book and share your memories at
broussards1889.com