



## Mr. Allen Curtis Cockrell

July 24, 1949 - November 14, 2019

Mr. Allen Curtis Cockrell, 70, passed away on November 14, 2019 at The Hermitage Northern Virginia in Alexandria, Virginia. Allen was born on July 24, 1949, in Starkville, the son of Bonnie Tisdale Cockrell and the late Robert Franklin Cockrell. Allen was a Veteran of the Texas Air National Guard. He worked as a Lab Analyst for DuPont for 38 years. He enjoyed scuba diving, collecting firearms, fishing, and building a computer. He was an avid reader. His niece, Melissa, was his pride and joy. He was of the Methodist faith. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by a brother, Larry Cockrell.

Graveside services will be Thursday, November 21, 2019, at 2:00 P.M. from Cairo Cemetery with Dr. James Towery officiating. Calvert Funeral Home of West Point is honored to be entrusted with the arrangements.

Survivors include his mother, Bonnie T. Cockrell of Alexandria, Virginia; a brother, Roger Cockrell (Anna Lisa) of Falls Church, Virginia, and his niece, Melissa Cockrell of Falls Church, Virginia.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Cathy Paynter, Beverly Smith, David Scott, Wally McGee, Steve Musemeche, Charlene Walker, Debbie Derrick, George Moore, and Barbie Low.

Memorials may be made to Cairo Cemetery Fund, c/o Judy Chrismond, 23225

Hwy 50 West, West Point, MS 39773.

Visitation will follow the service in the church Fellowship Hall.

Friends may leave an online condolence at [www.calvertfuneralhome.com](http://www.calvertfuneralhome.com)

## Cemetery Details

**Cairo Cemetery**

## Previous Events

**Graveside Service**

NOV 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Cairo Cemetery

# Tribute Wall

DT

“ *Don, Barbi, Tara and Tristan purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mr. Allen Curtis Cockrell.*



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**Don, Barbi, Tara and Tristan** - November 20, 2019 at 02:53 AM

DD

“ *Debi Derrick purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Mr. Allen Curtis Cockrell.*



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**Debi Derrick** - November 19, 2019 at 05:39 PM

WC

“ *With love, JD, Michele, Ed, Gretchen, & Christy purchased the Fall Fantasia for the family of Mr. Allen Curtis Cockrell.*



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**With love, JD, Michele, Ed, Gretchen, & Christy** - November 19, 2019 at 10:17 AM

DD

“ I’ve known Allen since I was 16... that comes to 49 years. My favorite story was from the early days when his famous—or is it infamous—red Lotus was shiny new and a joy to behold. Allen was scheduled to report for National Guard duty in Austin, their annual two-week training exercise. I asked him if he was ever going to let me drive his Lotus. “Ride with me to Austin and you can drive it back and keep it while I’m gone.” I was all of 18 and wasn’t about to pass that up! It was evening and he was leaving to make it a nighttime trip, so I made a mad dash to my house, delivered the news to my astonished mother and left for the trip before she had time to close her dropped jaw! I’ll skip over some of the less interesting points, like Allen’s falling asleep at the wheel and driving off the road on a curve, landing neatly in the grass, the car have spun several times but somehow sliding between a series of pylons. I guess little cars have some advantages after all. We arrived in Austin around daybreak, he gave me a few pointers, including telling me what the gauges should read. Remember that. The old gauge is important here. I was finally in control, got behind the wheel and headed back to Orange. Except for one little problem. The oil gauge was reading VERY much higher than he said it was supposed to. I stopped at the first gas station I came to, a little country number that looked like it came straight out of Mayberry. The poor attendant was as befuddled as I was. Remember, it was a ‘mid-ship’ engine, meaning it had parts in front and back of the two-seater area. We opened both ends and still couldn’t figure out what to look at, to make a long story even longer, it was the slowest, most cautious trip I ever made in my entire life! Once I got it back to Orange. Upon arriving home, mom’s car got booted to the curb and the Lotus took up its place in the garage. I took it out for a drive down the ‘drag,’ which was MacArthur Drive, only one night while I had it. I was terrified of doing something to that car. When Allen got back and I told him about it, he fired up the lotus, informed me that, no, the oil pressure was perfect. Well, I know what he told me it was supposed to be, and that wasn’t it. Oh! The frustration of having that nifty little car for two weeks and only showing it off for 40 minutes once! The story came up from time to time through the years. I

*always said he did that on purpose. Of course, anybody who knows my driving record would probably agree. RIP, Allen. And thanks for letting me drive your Lotus. .*

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**Debi Derrick** - November 18, 2019 at 11:38 PM

JB

*What a great story, thank you for sharing, Debi. We met your kind friend Allen through his loving brother Roger's family here in Virginia. What a wonderful family and we're so sad about the loss of Allen. We are a car dealer family who at one point enjoyed driving a Lotus. Nice to know this car info about Allen...and about your close friendship too! In sympathy with gratitude and love to all, June and Mike Beyer Falls Church VA*

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**june and Mike Beyer** - November 27, 2019 at 10:20 AM