



Alvin Eugene Ridley

March 3, 1942 - July 2, 2024

Alvin Eugene Ridley, for years owner of Ridley's Zenith TV Sales and Service, departed this life on July 2, 2024, joining his loving wife Virginia and his parents in Heaven.

Alvin was a United States Army veteran, and a friend to many at the Tunnel Hill Barber Shop and the Law Offices on Nashville Street in Ringgold. His skill at fixing picture tube-era televisions was without match.

Alvin is preceded in death by his wife, Virginia Hickey Ridley; parents, William "Bill" Ridley and Minnie Savannah Ridley.

He will be sorely missed by his lawyer and friend McCracken Poston Jr., legal assistant Carlene Renner, friends at the Tunnel Hill Barber Shop and everyone at the law offices who enjoyed his regular visits. He is also survived by many cousins.

Until an anticipated scholarship is set up in his name, contributions may be made to the Chattanooga Autism Center in memory of Alvin Ridley.

A visitation will be held on Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held on Sunday, July 7, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. A livestream of the funeral service will be available at <https://www.youtube.com/@wilsonfh-ringgoldchapel8226/stream>. Interment will be held on Monday, July 8, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Gordy Memorial Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Wilson Funeral Homes Wallis – Stewart Chapel, Ringgold, Georgia.

Cemetery Details

Gordy Memorial Gardens

124 Wilbanks Rd
Tunnel Hill, GA 30755

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 7. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Funeral Homes Wallis-Stewart Chapel
443 Boynton Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736

Funeral Service

JUL 7. 3:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Funeral Homes Wallis-Stewart Chapel
443 Boynton Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736

Graveside Service

JUL 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

Gordy Memorial Gardens
124 Wilbanks Rd
Tunnel Hill, GA 30755

Tribute Wall

MA

“ I did not know you, but I heard your story, Bless you and hope your wife with the Lord. From Canada with love.

Marlon - May 28 at 01:37 AM

DO

“ DorisHarrison lit a candle in memory of Alvin Eugene Ridley



DorisHarrison - April 28 at 04:52 PM

WA

“ I knew Alvin's trial story through documentaries. He seems like a kind-hearted fellow, he was just misunderstood, and it was mostly due to autism. My condolences to his surviving family.

William Akin - March 27 at 07:55 PM

LF

“ Poor man. Fly high Mr. & Mes. Ridly!!

Lisa Finn - February 26 at 04:38 PM

JA

“ He was persecuted for being odd. Poor man probably had a personality disorder and I see now possibly autism. This case shouldn't have been brought to trial. His wife probably just had a seizure. Anyway RIP. I hope they're kinder to you in Heaven

jade - July 02, 2025 at 04:40 PM

SU

Interesting that his wife hadn't had a comb through her hair in 30 years, but he found time to go to a barbershop... says a lot

Summer - September 22, 2025 at 01:27 PM

CP

It says that as an autistic person he followed his comfortable patterns , which is what autistic people do , and it says that he allowed his wife to live as she wanted. There is nothing that indicates any nefarious work at hand.

Christine Palazzolo - February 09 at 07:18 PM

SB

Exactly Christine. Alvin and Virginia were basically two social outcasts who somehow found each other. That in itself is pretty special. They could clearly relate to one another and were happy in their own way. I think their love story was very sweet actually.

Stephanie B. - March 10 at 04:16 PM

RU

So sad that this happened like it did. I'm sure there was a comb in the house. So I don't understand how he was blamed. Her hair was short enough to be brushed with her hands. I do that all the time before I comb or brush my hair because my hair is to my waist. Soooo.. bit i understand her family's pain too. I mean it's easy to put the blame on him I guess. But it looks like she really loved him and was happy to be living the life she did. God bless them both. No one was a winner here. Rip to this family a d lord giver her family forgiving hearts. And let them know the truth. Because I know it's hard once you think ur family has been mistreated it's hard to get it out of ur mind. I think he was really mistreated in life and scared of everyone even his wife's family'. Rip

Ruth - March 16 at 05:32 PM

RU



Ruth - March 16 at 05:33 PM

DC

“ This poor man was persecuted,by quack doctors and corrupt police and DA,may he rest in peace,and those that,put him though it burn in hell

Dave Capps - December 31, 2024 at 02:05 AM

BJ

Alvin was crazy as hell

Barbara jean - April 14, 2025 at 03:07 PM

JA

You sound mean as hell.

jade - July 02, 2025 at 04:41 PM

RT

Alvin was eccentric...We all are in a way!

Rhoda RAMONA Timera - December 06, 2025 at 03:02 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Alvin Eugene Ridley.



July 08, 2024 at 11:03 AM

KP

“ Kurt And Shannon Pulver lit a candle in memory of Alvin Eugene Ridley



Kurt and Shannon Pulver - July 08, 2024 at 07:40 AM

TL

“ Teresa Long lit a candle in memory of Alvin Eugene Ridley



Teresa Long - July 06, 2024 at 11:07 AM

AN

“ My dad new Alvin for years he would always go to his shop in ringgold and would get his old TVs from him he said he was a good guy he new him and his wife my dad's name is nugget roach he use to do business with him a lot but for now Sr thank you for your service that you did for us and now you can be free and with your wife go rest hi



Angie - July 05, 2024 at 11:19 PM

RH

“ Ronnie And Darlene Hinds lit a candle in memory of Alvin Eugene Ridley



Ronnie and Darlene Hinds - July 05, 2024 at 09:48 AM

JN

“ Though I did not know Alvin personally, I feel like I still really knew him.... THANK YOU McCracken for sharing Alvin's story with the world..... RIP kind sir 🙏

Jason & Alicia Hahn of Minot, ND - July 04, 2024 at 05:01 PM



“ After moving to Ringgold from New York in 2001 I finally had the honor and privilege of Meeting Alvin at caffeine addicts a few months ago he and Ken Poston autographed my copy of Zenith Man very sad to hear of his passing rest in peace Alvin

Maureen Simpson - July 04, 2024 at 11:15 AM

LD

“ I remember Alvin well. Rest in peace my friend and classmate.

LeBron Duffey - July 03, 2024 at 05:28 PM

BH

“ Burl Hullender lit a candle in memory of Alvin Eugene Ridley



Burl Hullender - July 03, 2024 at 04:29 PM

SD

“ A much deserved Restful Peace Mr. Alvin.

Sharon Dayton - July 03, 2024 at 03:59 PM

SD

“ Sharon Dayton sent a virtual gift in memory of Alvin Eugene Ridley



Sharon Dayton - July 03, 2024 at 03:53 PM

TF

“ I knew Alvin and his dad from serving them at the Kreme Kastle in Ringgold when I was in high school. They were always friendly and gave off a spirit of thankfulness. I also read the book, “Zenith Man.” He always came to our home to fix our TV when it needed repairing. He was a really a great repairman, and my dad said he was the “greatest.” I knew Alvin well enough to know that he could never harm anyone. Thanks to Ken Poston and a jury who could see him for who he was, he was able to live many more years of freedom. He was an icon of my hometown of Ringgold, and he will never be forgotten.

Tony Carter, Tampa, FL - July 03, 2024 at 03:52 PM

TF

From Tony Carter, Tampa, FL

Tony Carter, Tampa, FL - July 03, 2024 at 03:53 PM

JP

Loved his story, albeit very sad, and thank Mr. Poston for believing in his innocence and helping him win his freedom. It was so obvious he and his wife, Virginia, loved one another so very much.

Jan Perillo - September 06, 2024 at 01:53 AM