



CAPT Joseph Brown Venable

February 5, 1946 - September 27, 2025

CAPT Joseph Venable, United States Navy (Retired), 79, of Lacey's Spring, Alabama entered the presence of the Lord on September 27, 2025. He was born February 5, 1946, in Mayfield, Kentucky to parents William Venable and Martha Venable of Mayfield.

Joe is survived by his wife Brenda Page Venable of 58 years; two sons, Kirk Venable of Bells, Tennessee and Brett Venable of Germany; three grandchildren, Will Venable, Reid Venable, and Alexander Venable; and a brother, Phillip Venable of Franklin, Tennessee. He was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Martha Venable.

CAPT Venable was a graduate of Mayfield High School class of 1964 and later obtained a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering at University of Kentucky, a Master of Engineering at University of Florida and a Master of Arts in International Relations at Salve Regina College. He was also a graduate of the Naval War College.

Joe's legacy will continue to inspire those who knew him. His unwavering faith, love for his family, and tireless service to his country and community will be deeply missed but fondly remembered.

Joe began his 26-year career in the Navy Civil Engineer Corps in 1969, retiring in 1995. During this time, he lived in Rhode Island, California, Georgia, Vietnam, Germany, Florida, Tennessee, Maryland, Puerto Rico and Virginia. His responsibilities included Public Works (Facilities, Utilities, Environmental, Transportation, Housing, Fire Marshal) and Construction Management. He

was also a Warranted Contracting Officer.

His military decorations, medals, badges and campaign ribbons include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (3), Navy Commendation Medal w/ Combat "V", Meritorious Unit Commendation (2), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, US Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation, US Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon, Vietnam Civil Action Medal, Republic of Vietnam Unit Citation Gallantry Cross Medal with Palm, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (3), Overseas Service Ribbon, Rifle and Pistol Ribbons.

Following his military career, he and Brenda moved to North Alabama. He then worked as an Environmental Contractor on Redstone Arsenal supporting the Missile Defense Agency with Earth Tech, AAECOM and Mabbett & Associates for 22 years. He was known for his dedication, professionalism, and commitment to excellence.

A private, family graveside service will be held.

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel, Directing.

Tribute Wall

BM

“ *Bettie M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of CAPT Joseph Brown Venable.*



Bettie M. - October 02, 2025 at 01:12 PM

WW

“ *I am sorry to hear about Joe's passing. I worked with Joe for a number of years in Huntsville and he was truly an officer and a gentleman, a true professional. I learned a lot from the way he carried himself and the way he went about accomplishing what needed to be accomplished. I truly admired and thought the world of him. I will keep the family in my thoughts and prayers. ~ Whitt Walker*

whitt walker - October 02, 2025 at 09:04 AM

HF

“ *Dear Brenda and family. I am greatly saddened to learn that Joe has passed away. Over the 20+ years that i worked with Joe, we might have started out as competitor consultants, but we ended up being trusted co-workers and friends. I truly enjoyed working with Joe and even more so our sharing of our dog stories (and of course human family members too). Every phone call would start off with how was Mae (our dog) and end with "howard, make sure to give Mae a cookie!" He was a wonderful person and I will miss him so. Maren and I will keep you and your boys (and their families) in our thoughts and prayers. -howard finkel*

Howard S Finkel - October 01, 2025 at 05:32 PM

DS

“ I am so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was a great boss, employee, and support contractor. Always a font of wisdom, he treated everyone with respect. Joe was a Christian and he acted that way, even under pressure.

He talked very fondly of his Brenda, theirs sons and families. He was a proud, husband, father and grandfather.

Joe was a downright good guy!

Our condolences to Brenda, his sons and their entire family.

Dan & Jill Spiegelberg

Dan Spiegelberg - October 01, 2025 at 05:14 PM

BL

“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Joe. He was such a sweet person. I always enjoyed our phone conversations, and I knew from the first time we chatted; he'd always be a favorite of mine. I know Mr. Joe knew the Lord. He is rejoicing without pain, and we will see him again one day. Mrs. Brenda - you are in my prayers. Call if you ever need to talk or pray. Sending my love! - Brooke Lowe

Brooke Lowe - October 01, 2025 at 03:43 PM



“ I am sorry for your loss , what a wonderful history heritage he has left for his posterity. What a distinguished noble officer and person he definitely is. i am probably kin through through Prince side,may be distant but I claim all of my kin no matter what.We are all Brothers and Sisters of our Loving ,kind,merciful Heavenly Father.



Polly Jex - September 30, 2025 at 08:30 AM

TR

Joe Brown was a year ahead of me at Mayfield , KY. High School. We must have played a hundred games of basketball in my backyard together. We played football on the MHS team. What an entirely good young man he was. He obviously continued his excellence all the way through his distinguished life. Joe Brown is one of those old friends that I figured I would see again , but didn't. Look up the "Joe Brown" in your life and give him/ her a call. Rest easy, Old Friend, Tommy Reed

Tom Reed - September 30, 2025 at 09:08 AM

JB

Dear Brenda and Family, I'm getting to where I can't remember anything much these days. I sincerely hope I contacted you before this about Joe,s passing. I had the greatest respect and admiration for all that he did in and for the CEC and Navy. If I can ever do anything for you, call me. My cell is 479-981-0119. Warmest regards, Jack Buffington.

Jack Buffington - November 14, 2025 at 02:44 PM