



# FRANCIS LAWRENCE ALSOBROOK

NOV 21, 1923 - MAY 5, 2016



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# FRANCIS LAWRENCE ALSOBROOK

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**F**rancis Lawrence Alsobrook, 92, with family by his bedside at home, went peacefully to be with the Lord on May 5th, 2016. Born in the heart of Miami, to Larry and “Monie” on November 21, 1923, “Sonny” grew up in the wilds of South Florida, constantly outdoors hunting and fishing in this “tropical paradise.”

His father died when Larry was six, so he was raised in a house with his mother, aunts, and three sisters – Dian, Elizabeth, and Ginny. Always escaping to the outside, he experienced the joys of the beauty of his environment.

Dad had a wonderful high school life being a Red Raider at Edison. He played football and built his own boat in shop class. He graduated in 1941, and after spending a summer in the Keys, he enlisted in the U.S. Marines to serve in WWII. Larry became a Radio Gunner in a B-25 for Squadron 413, flying over thirty missions in the Pacific. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

After the war, he returned and attended the University of Miami, graduating in 1949. Always enjoying life, Dad was a member of SAE, where he was instrumental in the building of the Fraternity House, and remained a life-long benefactor.

He had fun dancing and socializing and, at one event, was introduced to the love of his life, Nancy Gramley. It was a game-changer, and Dad was an extremely devoted husband until she passed away in 2004. They had three children – Gay, Larry, and Dorie – which they raised in a loving Christian home.

Larry was an excellent provider. As a Commercial Real Estate Broker for over sixty years, Larry was appreciated for his integrity and perseverance. He also developed rental properties in Perrine. For his recreation, Sonny was renown for his fishing exploits, both in the Gulf Stream and in Florida Bay. He gave many friends fresh cleaned fish and had wonderful fish-frys for his Potluck Club. He also grew great homegrown tomatoes, which he gave to friends.



## Obituary

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The most important mission in Larry's life was to proclaim Jesus as his Savior and to witness to everyone he met, of the importance of being a Christian. He was a steadfast Gideon and supporter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). He contributed generously and always gave encouragement.

Larry was passionate about football and especially enjoyed games at the Orange Bowl. Anticipating the demise of the Bowl, he felt it was imperative for the University of Miami to build an on-campus stadium. For over forty years, Larry promoted the "Ibis Roost" as a true benefit to the University and community. It was his lifelong dream to keep the U of M a perennial powerhouse with wonderful game day activities for the home fans.

Larry's final endeavor was to help Dorie honor Nancy by helping develop "Nancy's Italian Ice" in Montgomery, Alabama. Opening in 2010, "Nancy's" has received many accolades and has been a very successful community business. Sonny always loved to stay busy, and never gave up the idea of franchising and expanding.

All his life, Larry was constantly active, never an idle moment. He traveled the world with Nancy, took bus tours with friends, and visited family throughout the country. He enjoyed playing tennis and spending time at the Riviera Country Club. In his eighties, Sonny made twenty-one skydiving jumps. He loved to say, "I'll never stop 'til I get to the top; tell me why I'm shooting high."

Along with his children, he has 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on May 21, at 3:00pm, at the First Presbyterian Church, 609 Brickell Avenue. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Gideons International, FCA, or to the U of M Stadium Fund.





# Events

**FRANCIS LAWRENCE ALSOBROOK**

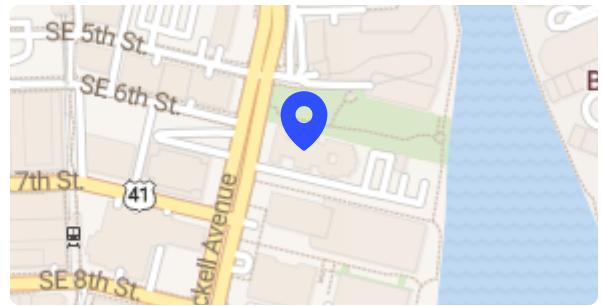
NOV 21, 1923 - MAY 5, 2016

## Memorial Service


 **Saturday**, May 21, 2016

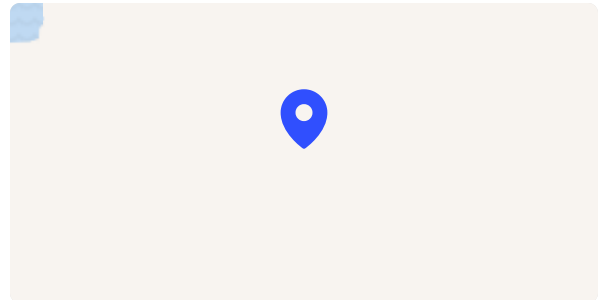
 3:00 PM ET

 **First Miami Presbyterian Church**  
609 Brickell Avenue, Miami FL 33131



## Cemetery Details

 **Private Burial**  
FL





## Tribute Wall

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DB

**Daniel Blanco** posted:

In 2013, I had lost a very good job for being an honest & caring worker, when this kind man began talking to me in the deli line at the Publix by the UM campus. He went to his car and brought me a bible, put his contact information in it, and gave it to me. We prayed together. It was a moving moment, and I use the bible he gave me to this day, and think of what a beautiful soul he was and is regularly. This world is a lesser place without his loving light in it. Thank you Larry. - Daniel Blanco

April 27 at 11:41 AM

DM

**Daniel Medina** posted:

I am deeply saddened to find this obituary as Larry was a unique soul. I met Larry in the early 2000s while working at BankAtlantic bank in South "Miamuh". I was captivated by the way he carried himself and all the similarities and interests we shared. The real connection came when he talked about fishing. I, myself, was a fishing fanatic. Larry talked about fishing in Flamingo since the 1950s when there were two roads leading into the park. He always amazed me with how sharp he was, and with how much detail he could recall events. Over the years, we made dozens on trips to Flamingo, some on my 15 ft aluminum Jon boat, some on his friends Hell's Bay, and later some on my Hewes. Larry used to talk about trolling for barracudas in Biscayne bay. At one point his old mercury 25 died and he was looking for a motor. He purchased my 1 yr old 15 Johnson from me. It was a great motor and I hope he got lots of use out of it. Now the reason I sold the 15 was because I had purchased a new boat, an 18 ft Hewes. I bought this because I was transitioning my career from a banker to a guide. Larry was instrumental in helping me learn Flamingo. His love, appreciation, and experience within the park cut my learning curve 10 fold. Had I not met Larry, I don't know that I would have switched careers. After a few years, I moved from miami and unfortunately lost touch with Larry. Although we lost touch, the memories never go away. I remember his white Plymouth cruiser with the wood pabel sides pulling up to the house before a fishing trip, Larry with a grin from ear to ear. I remember many of the talks we had in my truck on the long drives down as well as on the boat. He talked of UMs need for an on campus stadium. He talked of Howard snelleburger, and Donna Shellalah (sp?). He talked about his times going to the Keys, his time in the service, and about his wife who had recently passed away. I remember him taking about his daughter starting a business in Alabama. We prayed over each meal and gave thanks for what we had. There are so many things I learned from Larry, and it was an honor knowing him. God Bless you Larry and may you Rest in Peace.-Daniel Medina captdanielmedina@gmail.com

January 16 at 1:49 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring FRANCIS by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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