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## **Auburn Leslie Mitchell**



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Auburn Leslie Mitchell, who died November 22, 2022, was a husband, father, brother and friend to many. He was an attorney, specializing in natural resources and energy.

Surviving family include his wife Sara, sons Charles (Karin) and Jim and his two grandchildren, Matthew and Jeanette, sisters Mignon (Gale) Sullivan and Evonne (Dee) Roberson, sister-in-law Donnie, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Leslie and Thelma Sherrill and his three older brothers, Maurice, James and Dwayne.

He attended Oklahoma State University, graduating with a degree in Industrial Engineering in 1964. Partly because he always enjoyed lively discussions (arguing) he then attended the University of Oklahoma law school. He graduated in the top of his class in 1967 with a JD degree. He served on the Law Review and was a member of the Order of the Coif.

In July 1967, he married Saralou (Sara) Griffin of Hobart Oklahoma, whom he had met at the University of Oklahoma. They remained married for the rest of Auburn's life. They had two sons, Charles and James, respectively born in 1973 and 1975.

While at OSU, Auburn was a member of Army ROTC and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant upon graduation. He served in the US Army for two years, including a tour with the Big Red One Infantry Division in Viet Nam.

After his Army service he worked for several corporations and the federal government before moving to Austin, Texas in 1985, he served as Counsel to Mack Wallace, Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission, followed by serving as energy advisor to Governor Bill

1 of 3 1/3/2023, 1:37 PM

Clements. He continued to serve the State of Texas in the areas of energy and natural resources through his career, taking positions at the University of Texas **Bureau of Economic** Geology, the Texas Railroad Commission, the **Texas Commission** on Environmental Equality, and finally in the office of Governor Rick Perry. He retired in 2008.

A memorial is tentatively planned for Saturday March, 11 2023 at Cook-Walden Chapel of the Hills Funeral Home, Austin TX.

Memorial gifts may be made to ProMedica Foundation, listing "Arden Courts of Austin TX" in the memo line, then mailed to ProMedica Foundation, Memory Care Fund,

2 of 3

444 N Summit Street, Suite 100, Toledo, OH 43604

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3 of 3