



William Henry Downs

January 26, 1940 - February 23, 2022

William Henry “Ity” Downs, age 82 of Dayton, passed on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at Rhea Medical Center in Dayton. He was born on January 26, 1940, in Dayton, the son of the late Frankie (Clark) Downs.

William was a much-loved custodian at Dayton City School and Rhea Central Elementary School. He was a member of the First Christian Church in Dayton.

He is survived by his brother, Johnny Downs of Dayton; his adopted sisters, Margaret Swafford of Dayton and Doris Mitchell of Baltimore, MD; his adopted brother, Robert Williams of Dallas, TX; and a host of nephews and nieces.

Funeral services for William will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Charles Johnson officiating.

The service will be live streamed at <https://my.gather.app/remember/william-downs-2022>.

Please share your memories and photos of William on his online guest book at www.vanderwallfh.com.

The family is being cared for by Vanderwall Funeral Home in Dayton, TN, where they will receive friends on Saturday, March 5, 2022, after 2:00 p.m.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **5**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Vanderwall Funeral Home
164 Maple St
Dayton, TN 37321
(423) 775-2662

Funeral Service

MAR **5**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Vanderwall Funeral Home
164 Maple St
Dayton, TN 37321
(423) 775-2662

Tribute Wall



“ 32 files added to the album Memories Album



Vanderwall Funeral Home, Inc. - December 11, 2023 at 11:26 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Henry Downs.



March 04, 2022 at 10:16 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Robin Ray - March 02, 2022 at 09:10 PM

MS

“ Johnny, I met William when I visited my brother Richard Jackson and his wife many years ago, from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; We became friends instantly and stayed in touch via telephone. You had a beautiful and caring brother. I want to take a moment to share my deepest sympathy for your loss from my family to yours. May he rest in the arms Jesus with his friend, Richard.

Mary Skinner - March 01, 2022 at 06:09 PM

MS

“ Mary Skinner lit a candle in memory of William Henry Downs



Mary Skinner - March 01, 2022 at 05:56 PM

AP

“ William was a wonderful friend to my whole family. He and my dad, Bob, worked together at Rhea Central for many years. When I started working there in 1998, we became fast friends. William always looked out for me and made sure I had whatever I needed. During the summers he would stop by my house and my parents' house for quick visits if he was in the neighborhood. Since he retired, he would normally stop by Rhea Central a couple of times a year to visit with me or we would see each other out in town and catch up. He was a good man who loved his family. He was always telling me about trips he took to visit his different siblings. It was clear how much he loved all of you. He will be missed by so many, but I know he is celebrating in Heaven. I pray for comfort and peace for you all. William will always hold a special place in my heart.
Angie Taylor Pendergrass

Angie Pendergrass - March 01, 2022 at 11:54 AM

MH

“ *Melissa Hickman lit a candle in memory of William Henry Downs*



Melissa Hickman - March 01, 2022 at 05:31 AM

MW

“ *William and Johnny were wonderful neighbors and friends to Sherry and I. William was always quick with an entertaining story and a smile. Our block parties in the summer months were made more memorable because of William's secret rib recipe. His passing leaves a void in our hearts and in the community of Dayton.*

Mike and Sherry Weller

Mike Weller - February 28, 2022 at 07:12 PM

LM

Willi lol Ian was a dear friend of me and pop and also of our church Shiloh Baptist Church in Spring City Louise McDonald

Louise McDonald - March 02, 2022 at 05:04 PM

LM

William was a good friend of mine and pop and a friend of our church Shiloh Baptist church in Spring City

Louise McDonald - March 02, 2022 at 05:09 PM

AW

BRO.JOHNNY ,Prayers and Comfort to you and your family. SADNESS TO HEAR OF WILLIAMS PASSING Fun Memories of a good Man. PEACE BE UNTO YOU!! 🙏❤️ BLESSINGS, PASTOR ANNETTE WARREN AND FAMILY. 🌸

Annette Warren - March 05, 2022 at 12:38 PM