



Willard Howerton

December 2, 1931 - August 9, 2017

PRINCETON – Willard “Will” Preston Howerton, 85, of Princeton passed away August 9, 2017. Born December 2, 1931 in Bud, Wyoming County, WV, he was the son of the late Louie and Ella Shrewsberry Howerton.

He attended Johnston Chapel Church as long as his health permitted. He was a graduate of Herndon High School and a veteran of the U. S. Army serving during the Korean Conflict. An avid reader from a very young age, he once said he read to escape being poor. Many of those places he read about came to life in travels in the 80’s, 90’s and 2000’s including a trip to Israel.

When he was three, he watched the family home burn, causing the death of his father and brother, Ernest. He attributed that tragedy and watching a new home being built to his love of building. He started working with his brother, Lloyd when he was very young, cutting timber, sawing lumber from the trees and pouring their own cinderblocks for building.

In 1954 the family moved to Athens so his sisters could attend Concord College. After his discharge from the military, he was a builder in the Staunton, Virginia area before returning to Mercer County to care for his mother. He was the developer of Sunny Meadows Subdivision, Deerfield Apartments, a section of Athens Road near Princeton, as well as many homes in surrounding counties.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by brothers, Lloyd Howerton and Ernest Howerton and sisters, Carrie Aldridge, Mary Lee McAlister, Thelma McAlister, Helen Howerton, Bea Funk.

He is survived by his wife Anita Howerton and sister Elva Howerton Southern and numerous nieces and nephews. Special thanks to caregivers; Ann, Shirley, Bonnie, Katrina, Tim and Jerry.

A graveside service for family and friends will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. Monday, August 14, 2017 at Athens Cemetery in Athens with Rev. John King officiating. In the event of inclement weather the service will be at Mt. Jackson's Church. At Mr. Howerton's request he was cremated.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Johnston Chapel Church or Mt. Jackson's Church.

Arrangements by Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.bailey-kirk.com.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

Athens Cemetery
Athens, WV

Tribute Wall



“ *Willard Howerton*

December 27, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *I am so very sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Howerton. I just now saw news of his passing. I never knew Mr. Howerton, but my father, Floyd Blizzard, knew him as his landlord and Dad thought the world of him. He admired him and often spoke of how he was a very nice gentleman and was so conscientious with the care of the apartments. Sending up prayers for the family for comfort, peace, and sweet memories of the life they shared with him.*

Connie Blizzard Jarrells

Connie - November 08, 2017 at 11:38 AM



“ *I Will Always Love You.*



Elizabeth J. Southwood - October 06, 2017 at 07:26 PM

AD

“ We were so blessed to have Will as our neighbor for many years. He was helpful to John and Bud's mother in having running water in our home, actually digging the ditch from the road to the house and getting the pipes in place. He was one of the hardest workers we ever knew and certainly has a lot to prove it. We always enjoyed the time we got to spend with Will and Anita, for awhile before his health decline. They were the kind of people who were well spoken and interesting to spend time with. We learned so much from them. We will miss him but pray some day to meet him again.
John, Ann and Bud Danieley

Ann Danieley - August 14, 2017 at 09:02 AM

RF

“ First I would like to offer my sympathy to the Howerton family and that he rest in peace. I would like to say that Mr. Howerton was one of the finest individuals I have know. Not only as a landlord but as a friend too.

My family has known Mr. Howerton from the time I attend first grade until today. My dad worked for him for a time and learned the skills to eventually build our family home. I remember working for Mr. Howerton during school summer vacations earning a few bucks so I could go to the WV state fair. Mr. Howerton will be truly missed.

Rick Harrison & the Harrison family - August 14, 2017 at 06:50 AM

MA

“ Willard was one of a kind a special man who will be greatly missed.

Michele Soucy Alley - August 14, 2017 at 06:06 AM

BH

“ Willard was a gentle and caring man. I called on him many times to fix/mend something in the apartment and would encourage him to sit a spell and talk. I loved to talk with him. He led a quiet, but interesting life. I will miss him very much. My prayers are with his family.

Betty Hagenrater - August 10, 2017 at 08:58 PM

BM

“ Willard Howerton, was One of the finest gentlemen, you'd ever want to meet. I am so glad that I got the opportunity to work for him. I learn a lot just being around him. He was good friend and the best landlord you could ever ask for. Rest in peace my friend.



Bonny McConnell - August 10, 2017 at 04:40 PM