



Bernard James Dowdell

December 28, 1942 - April 15, 2025

Bernard “Barney” Dowdell, age 82, passed away April 15, 2025. Barney was a one of a kind individual who was difficult to forget. He had a way of brightening any room he entered and was always the life of the party. His genuinely caring nature made him a fast friend to all those he met and he would always greet people with a larger than life smile.

In his free time, Barney would normally be found reading books about military history or aviation. Barney graduated with an MBA from Vanderbilt University where he made several lifelong friends.

Preceded in death by his wife, Alice Elizabeth Cleary Dowdell; parents, Joseph and Josephine Dowdell; siblings, Florence Freeman, Charles Dowdell, Joseph Dowdell, and Bette Dowdell. Barney is survived by his son, Bernard James Dowdell, Jr., daughter, Katherine Mary Dowdell; grandson, Timothy James Satterfield; wife, Sue Purk.

A Celebration of his life will be conducted at Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home Saturday, April 26th, from 1pm until 3pm.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **26**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home - Nashville Chapel

2707 Gallatin Pike

Nashville, TN 37216

(615) 262-3312

info@phillipsrobinson.com

<https://www.phillipsrobinson.com/>

Tribute Wall

SB

“ I was sorry to hear of "Barney's" Death. He was a classmate of mine for 5 years beginning in the 8th grade at Beverly, OH and continuing on through 4 years of high school. We were part of the first class to attend all four years at Fort Frye High School and graduate in 1961. His father was my pastor and I enjoyed many youth activities at the Beverly Methodist Church. I am sure that there are many, many good memories that will keep him alive in hearts of those who were friends and family. God Bless!

Sally Brigham - June 09 at 02:19 PM

GP

“ Our parents were best friends and ministers. In my high school years and years after Barney and I had a lot of fun including going to rock concerts. His friendship was something I treasured. Prayers to his family. I thank them for telling me of his passing

gerald pyle - April 26, 2025 at 08:36 AM

MB

“ My sister and I met Barney through Sue. Whenever we saw him he was always so kind to us. One of our fondest memory was when the four of us were playing cards and trying to teach Sue how to play Euchre. What a fun time!!! Love, Marilyn "Merle" & Robyn Beatty

Marilyn Beatty - April 25, 2025 at 08:50 AM

LB

“ Love, Marilyn “Merle” & Robyn Beatty purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Bernard James Dowdell.



Love, Marilyn “Merle” & Robyn Beatty - April 25, 2025 at 08:46 AM



“ 76 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home - April 24, 2025 at 02:36 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Bernard James Dowdell.



April 23, 2025 at 10:24 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bernard James Dowdell.*



April 21, 2025 at 02:33 PM



“ *Ellen, Kevin and Michael Cleary purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Bernard James Dowdell.*



Ellen, Kevin and Michael Cleary - April 16, 2025 at 11:40 AM



“ *Ellen, Kevin and Michael Cleary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernard James Dowdell.*

Ellen, Kevin and Michael Cleary - April 16, 2025 at 11:40 AM