



## Family Newsletter

Fall Issue, 2013 \* Volume 16, Issue 3

From Our Family to Yours

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**Family Owned & Operated  
Sincere Service Is Our Way of Life**

### Owen Funeral Homes

5317 Dixie Highway  
502-447-2600  
888-817-6105 (toll free)

9318 Taylorsville Road  
502-266-9655  
888-652-7332 (toll free)  
www.owenfuneralhome.com



The Owen Family Newsletter is published by the Owen Funeral Home. We invite your comments or questions. Please direct all correspondence to David L. Owen.  
Email: david.owen8680@gmail.com  
Email addresses are not retained by Owen.

Join us on



### Bird S. Owen, Jr. Built a Firm Foundation

In 1939, Bird S. Owen, Jr. opened the doors to the Owen Funeral Home by providing "Sincere Service" as his way of life. He knew the importance of extending a helping hand and giving back to his community. He also recognized that being a true friend to those in need would be the foundation for Owen Funeral Homes for many years to come.



The following is an excerpt from an article written by William R. Jewell in The Baptists Observer and brought to the attention of the local newspaper by Bird S. Owen, Jr., titled MY UNDERTAKER.

*"Some time ago I introduced a friend of mine to an undertaker. In doing so I spoke of him as 'my undertaker.' My friend looked at me in amazement as much as to say, 'Are you joking, or are you just jesting with death?' But why not talk about my undertaker? I talk about my doctor, my dentist, my minister, my druggist, my grocer and others. Why not my undertaker? Should I not take him into my inner circle of friends as much as my any of the others?"*

*"He will be the last friend to help me when all the others have done what they can. I want to know that friend as a real friend. I want to know him personally and be able to call him by his first name. I want him to be a real Christian, with more than a mercenary interest in me. I want him to be sympathetic, understanding, and considerate of my loved ones left behind. I want to be able to trust him implicitly. So, I want to know him as a friend while I live."*

In this issue of the Owen Newsletter we will be featuring examples of how our staff gives back by volunteering and why our family owned and operated funeral home is unique to this community. We are proud to say, the Owen Funeral Home family and staff lives up to the belief and core values established by the founding members, Bird Owen, Jr. and his wife Edith. They set the example carried forward by their children, David and Linda. And in turn, the Owen staff is carefully chosen because of their personal standards and willingness to put forward a helping hand to this community.

## Sincere Service Goes Above and Beyond

The Owen Family has deep roots in their community. When dealing with such an important event, turning to a funeral director whom you know and trust can make a world of difference. A family-owned firm will give you the personal attention and caring that you deserve, and the extra support that you will need after the funeral is over. You will also receive the outstanding professionalism that only generations of service can cultivate.

Although the Owen Funeral Home began serving this community in 1939, our list of services and programs offered are very much 2013. The funeral industry has changed, and we have not only changed with it, in many cases we have lead the way.

- **Special Touches** - Our funeral home offers many special touches at the time of your service including complimentary Memorial Candles, Photo Collages and Keepsakes, a Memorial DVD, an elegantly bound Memorial Photo Book and Laminated Bookmark Obituaries.
- **Aftercare & Pastoral Care Services** - No other local funeral home offers a program as in-depth as our Aftercare and Pastoral Care Services. The program includes individual and family support and counseling. We offer grief support groups for all losses. We also have a Remembrance Quilt and an annual Owen Remembrance Service. Owen Funeral Homes offer free yearly specialized programs and guest speakers, as well as coordinating trips called Rollin' with Owen. We are also proud to offer pastoral care services to individuals and families during a loved one's visitation and funeral.
- **Homelike Atmosphere** - The Owen Funeral Homes offer a beautiful homelike atmosphere with chapels thoughtfully decorated with flat-screen televisions. We strive to make your stay comfortable by providing all your needs including a lovely Family Lounge with Internet Access throughout the building and charging stations. Our outdoor space is relaxing with rocking chairs and beautifully landscaped grounds.
- **Monument & Bronze Memorial Products & Services** - The Owen Monument Company is a recent addition to our complete service. We can assist you in choosing the perfect granite, marble or bronze monument.
- **Technology Services** - One of the many things that set us apart in the funeral industry is our full time Social Media Manager who is also a licensed funeral director. We offer online preplanning forms and obituaries appear on our website, Facebook and Twitter. The website and blog also include many current topics such as green burials and funeral etiquette.

Please visit our website to learn more about the services and programs offered by Owen Funeral Home.

[www.owenfuneralhome.com](http://www.owenfuneralhome.com)

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## Why Choose a Family Owned Funeral Home?

When choosing a funeral home, you may want to find whether the business is owned by local individuals or run by a large corporation. During the past few years, publicly-owned corporations have been consolidating the funeral business. Recently, this trend has reversed, because the corporately-owned funeral homes have simply not measured up to the service that families receive from a locally-owned funeral home.

In addition, buying from a locally-owned, independent business keeps more of your money circulating in Louisville. A recent study of Louisville area businesses shows that for every \$100 spent with a locally-owned business, \$55 is reinvested locally, whereas only \$14 is reinvested when that same money is spent at a national chain. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains. Local owners have a natural interest in their communities' long-term health. Community-based businesses are essential to charitable endeavors, and their owners frequently serve on local boards and support numerous causes. The list of charities supported by Owen Funeral Home is far too long to add to this newsletter, but in all **Owen Funeral Home donates well over \$60,000 annually to local organizations and charities.**



## 541 Years of Experience

We are very proud of our staff. Each member is carefully chosen and represents what is best in our industry. Many of the funeral directors and other support staff members have worked at our family owned and operated business for many years. There is a reason that Owen Funeral Homes have the **Most Experienced Funeral Directors in Louisville.**

### Owen Family

Edith Owen - 65 years  
David Owen - 40 years  
Linda Owen - 30 years  
Rachel Barr - 10 years  
Pam Owen - 7 years

### Owen Staff

Bill Longest - 56 years  
Philip Simpson - 46 years  
Kenneth Hardin, Sr. - 46 years  
Glenn Bennett - 45 years  
Michael Burns - 39 years  
Mark McNeil - 35 years  
Jackie Pugh - 26 years  
Yvonne Nantz - 25 years  
Gary Thomas - 23 years  
Kenneth Hardin, Jr. - 21 years  
Richard Dike - 16 years  
Amanda Wells - 11 years

### Staff Volunteer & Community Service

Americana Community Center Board Member  
Audubon Baptist Church  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
Bluegrass Center for Autism Board of Directors  
Boaz Masonic Lodge  
Butler High School  
Fincastle DAR  
Gilda's Club  
Hosparus  
Highland Baptist Worship Care  
Jeffersontown Chamber of Commerce  
Jeffersontown Masonic Lodge 774  
Jeffersontown VFW  
Kosair Motor Corp.  
Kosair Charities  
Pleasure Ridge Park HS Cheer Booster  
Red Cross  
St. Edwards Parish Council, School Board,  
Athletic Ministry, Choir, Picnic Booth Chair,  
Partners in Education  
Robinson Masonic Lodge 266  
Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital  
St. Matthews Chamber of Commerce  
Women's Committee  
The Owen House at Sam Swope Care Center  
Valley High School  
Valley of Louisville Scottish Rite Temple  
Valley Masonic Lodge 511  
Wayside Christian Mission

**Totaling all the years -  
541 years of experience in  
funeral service**

## Thank you from "Bears on Patrol"

*Dear David and the Owen Funeral Home Staff,*

*Thank you so much for another wonderful "Stepping Stones" event. The amount of stuffed animals you are able to bring to us in one day is amazing. You completely restocked our "Bear Room," and our volunteers are already getting them prepped for the officers. Thank you again for letting us be a part of this event.*



*Regards,  
Stephanie with Kosair Charities-- Bears on Patrol*



Meet one of our  
Owen Family Members...

## Ken Hardin, Jr.

Manager Jeffersontown Owen Funeral Home



Ken began working for the Owen Funeral Home in 1993, following in the footsteps of his father, Ken Hardin, Sr., prior to his graduation from Mid America College in 1996. As a lifelong resident of Louisville, he attended St. Edward's Grade School in Jeffersontown and graduated from St. Xavier High School in 1989.

Ken graduated third in his class at Mid America and served as a Student Council Member. He is a former member of the Highlands Kiwanis and a current member of St. Edward Catholic Church, Jeffersontown Masonic Lodge #774, Scottish Rite and Kosair Temple. He also has served as a coach for St. Edward.

In 2010, Ken became the Manager of the Jeffersontown Owen Funeral Home. Not only did Ken, Jr. follow in his father's footsteps, they work at this location together.

He and his wife Jennifer Ehrler Hardin have two sons, Luke and Logan and on July 16, 2013, Ken and Jennifer welcomed a beautiful daughter, Mollie into their family.





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<http://www.owenfuneralhome.com>

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FOUNDING FAMILY  
Bird S. Owen Jr. (1911-1987)  
Mrs. Edith Owen  
David L. Owen  
Linda Owen Miller

FUNERAL DIRECTORS DIXIE HIGHWAY  
Mark McNeil, Manager  
Philip R. Simpson, Manager  
Glenn Bennett  
Michael L. Burns  
Rachel Barr  
William B. Longest  
Yvonne M. Nantz  
Jackie Pugh

FUNERAL DIRECTORS JEFFERSONTOWN  
Kenneth W. Hardin, Jr., Manager  
Kenneth W. Hardin, Sr., Asst. Manager  
Pamela H. Owen

PRE-NEED SERVICES  
Richard Dike, Manager  
Gary Thomas  
Amanda Wells

OWEN MONUMENT COMPANY  
Gary Thomas, Manager

An Owner of  
Highlands Funeral Home  
3331 Taylorsville Road \* Louisville, KY 40205  
502-451-4420

## Neighborhood News

### Grief Support Groups

Provided by Owen Funeral Homes as a Free Public Service

#### *“Transitions”*

Group for Bereaved Persons & Families  
in their first few months of grief  
Location and times assigned quarterly

#### *“Now and Beyond”*

Group for Widows and Widowers  
Every 3rd Friday, 2:00 p.m.  
Southwest Regional Library  
Every 3rd Wednesday, 2:00 p.m.  
Owen Funeral Home, Jeffersontown

#### *Monthly Widow/Widower’s Luncheon*

Every 1st Friday, 1:00 p.m.  
Golden Corral Restaurant, 5362 Dixie Highway

For Information: *Please call Genene Nisbet,  
Bereavement Services Specialist at 447-7759.*

#### *“A Parent’s Grief”*

1st and 3rd Monday, at 6:30 p.m.  
Hillview Baptist Church

#### *Monthly Men’s Breakfast*

Every 3rd Monday, at 8:30 a.m.  
The Kitchen Restaurant  
5300 Cane Run Rd

### From Our Kitchen To Yours

by Jennifer Hardin



#### Chicken Tortilla Soup

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- 2 jalapenos, finely diced
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 1 (14.5-ounce) can fire roasted diced tomatoes
- 1 (14.5-ounce) can black or pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 3 chicken breasts, boneless and skinless
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup shredded Monterrey cheese

#### Directions

In a large pan heat the vegetable oil. Add the onions and cook for 2 minutes. Once the onions have softened add the garlic and jalapenos and cook for another minute. Pour the chicken broth, tomatoes and beans into the pot and bring to a boil. Once at a boil lower heat to simmer and add your chicken breasts. Cook the chicken for 20 to 25 minutes. Once chicken is cooked add to pot. Garnish with cheese, sour cream and tortilla chips.

### You Are Always Welcome -

Owen Funeral Home staff welcomes the opportunity to show you around either of our facilities and to answer any questions you might have. Call the office or stop by.