

# The Owen



*A publication of information  
about life's difficult subjects*

## Family Newsletter

Spring Issue, 2016 \* Volume 19, Issue 2

From Our Family to Yours

### Inside This Issue

- 1 Stepping Stones 2016  
Brian Free & Assurance
- 2 Talking About Death  
A Difficult Conversation
- 3 Remembrance Quilt  
August, 2015 Dedication
- 3 The Owen Funeral  
Home Family  
featuring William Longest
- 4 Neighborhood News
- 4 From Our Kitchen To Yours  
Swedish Meatballs

### Stepping Stones 2016

With Brian Free & Assurance

Thursday, September 8th, 11:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.  
Valley View Church, 8911 Third Street Road – Valley Station

“**Show your Neighbors with Love**” by donating personal care items for:

- Shively Area Ministries
- South Louisville Community Ministries
- Southwest Community Ministries

The Owen family invites you to Stepping Stones 2016. Stepping Stones is an annual program sponsored by Owen Funeral Home. If you like southern gospel music, then get ready for Brian Free & Assurance. They will lift your spirits and leave you wanting more. They are sure to excite and inspire as they fill the air with great southern gospel music.



Be prepared for an upbeat, moving day and make sure to bring your appetite because we also have a tasty buffet planned by Mark's Feed Store. If you plan to join us for lunch, a lunch ticket is required in order to provide adequate food for all. All lunch tickets are reserved and may be picked-up on August 26th, at an Owen Funeral Home location. After lunch, we will move up into the auditorium where there is plenty of room for all who wish to attend and listen to the upbeat, toe tapping music.

Don't forget to “**Show your Neighbors with Love**” by donating personal care items (i.e. body soap, shampoo, hand soap, deodorant, etc.) These items will assist our local area ministries as they minister to those in crisis and need.

Schedule:

11:30 a.m. - Lunch (Free Ticket Required & Personal Care Item Requested)  
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. - Brian Free & Assurance

Pre-register with:

Gene Nisbet, 502-447-7759 or [gene.nisbet@owenfuneralhome.com](mailto:gene.nisbet@owenfuneralhome.com)

**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](http://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 the Owen Family.

Email: [info@owenfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@owenfuneralhome.com)  
Email addresses are not retained by Owen.

Join us on



## Talking About Death Won't Kill You

Virginia A. Simpson wrote a compelling blog on Nextavenue.org that there is such a thing as a good death. A good death occurs when the loved one's wishes are expressed and respected. A key to that is talking about end of life issues. Having conversations about death and one's wishes are beneficial for the following reasons: Ms Simpson writes, "On a pragmatic level, there's the planning element that conversations about death make possible. The awareness of what a loved one wants and doesn't want at the end of life enables those of us in caretaking roles to take whatever steps we can to ensure that those wishes are respected. If the conversation never takes place, the strong likelihood is that doctors and nurses who may have only met our loved one near the end are the ones who will choose a course of action — and often that choice is to continue medical interventions that only serve to prolong suffering and traumatize family members.

Yet, there's another level that goes far beyond the pragmatic, resonating deeply with the many issues death forces us to confront. For in talking about death, we are forced to look inward and contemplate who we truly are as human beings. This brings us perspective and helps us to remain honest in setting our life's priorities and to make choices wisely. It sheds light on the meaning of our relationships and strengthens the bonds we share with those with whom we're holding these conversations. Death is a topic that's fundamental to us all.

This doesn't mean that the conversation will be easy. Chances are, it won't be. But with the right touch, it can be a lot less painful than you might think.

### Tips to Get Started:

- Use a tone of curiosity rather than fear. For example, say, "I'm really curious about how you imagine the last phase of your life."
- To break the ice, couch the conversation in an anecdote about your own wishes. For example: "I've been giving some thought as to what my wishes might be toward the end of my life and wonder what you think about this. These are my wishes. What are yours?"
- Acknowledge any potential awkward feelings by saying, "I know this is a conversation you don't really want to have, but it's important. I'm here, and I'll stick with you through the discomfort."
- Explain that having this conversation is important for both of you and that by talking about it, you can avoid having things happen that he or she fears.
- If you are still facing reluctance, explain that having this conversation is the only way your loved one can have a voice in, and be part of, the decision-making process about the end of his or her life.



Then do one more thing to help everyone concerned: call to set up an appointment with one of our Owen Funeral Home Directors who specialize in advance funeral planning. Let us help you before end of life becomes a reality. Let us help you start the conversation.



## Remembrance Quilt Dedication

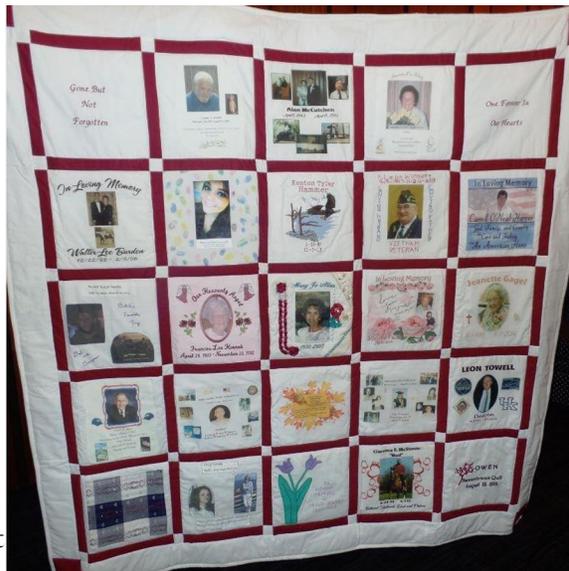
August 30, 2015

Owen Funeral Home has a reputation of serving families above and beyond what is expected from a funeral home. We started the Owen Remembrance Quilt program in 1999. The quilts are displayed as a reminder that as long as we live, our loved ones also live as we remember them. Each quilt square is unique and represents what is special to each family about their loved one. Much time and thought go into these quilt pieces. We are truly honored, at Owen Funeral Home, to have the privilege to display this work of love.

August 30, 2015 we dedicated our 11th Owen Remembrance Quilt.

Following are the names this quilt honors:

- Mary Jo Allen
- Walter Lee Burden
- Wanda Cheshire
- Phoebe Faust
- Jeanette Gagel
- Nellie Gentry
- Ellissa Jordan Greenwell
- Kenton Tyler Hammer
- Carroll O'Neal Harper
- Corwin G. Hockett
- Frances Lee Hornek
- Juanita Lee Klotz
- Alan McCutchen
- Clarence E. "Bud" McStoot
- Robert "Butch" Neville
- Gwen Paulley
- Jessie E. Sipes
- Leon Towell
- Cheryl Wardrip
- Norma June Bell Williamson
- Ralph Franklin "Frank" Williamson, Sr.
- Leon Wimsatt



*Our loved ones are still and always a part of us.  
They are threads in our fabric and we cannot lose their love.*

Darcie D. Sims, TouchStones

Meet one of our  
Owen Family Members...

**William Longest**  
Funeral Director



In 1957, I joined the Owen family in their endeavor to provide a service in the funeral industry that families could trust and count on. Over the past 58 years it has been my honor and privilege to care for families in their time of need.

Before coming to the funeral home I served in the military for over 3 years. In 1960, I met my beautiful wife Janie and with her loving support I am able to serve families as she has patiently accepted interrupted holidays and vacations due to funeral home needs. I have a sincere gratitude to her for her allowing me to follow my heart in the care I provide to Owen families and friends.

Although my profession has deeply impacted my life, I believe it has been worth it as I have found that in giving we find the meaning to life. I think life is about loving and being loved. As I enter the latter years of my profession I have come to realize that the most important thing, other than God and family, is to "Love whatever you do." If you do, then you will live a happy, meaningful, and satisfying life as I have. Friends are forever.



# Owen FUNERAL HOMES

5317 Dixie Highway Louisville, KY 40216  
502-447-2600 or 888-817-6105  
9318 Taylorsville Road Louisville, KY 40299  
502-266-9655 or 888-652-7332  
<http://www.owenfuneralhome.com>

Presorted Standard  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Louisville, KY  
Permit No. 1151

#### FOUNDING FAMILY

Bird S. Owen Jr. (1911-1987)  
Edith R. Owen (1917 - 2015)  
Linda Owen  
David L. Owen

#### FUNERAL DIRECTORS DIXIE HIGHWAY

Mark McNeil, Manager  
Philip R. Simpson  
Michael L. Burns  
William B. Longest  
Shannon Mazur  
Yvonne M. Nantz  
Jackie Pugh

#### FUNERAL DIRECTORS JEFFERSONTOWN

Kenneth W. Hardin, Jr., Manager  
Kenneth W. Hardin, Sr., Asst. Manager  
Rachel Barr  
Pamela H. Owen  
Ben Washam

#### PRE-NEED SERVICES

Richard Dike, Manager

#### 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*

#### ***"Now and Beyond"***

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

#### ***Monthly Spousal Loss Luncheon***

Every 1st Friday, 2:00 p.m.  
Golden Corral Restaurant  
5362 Dixie Highway

#### ***"A Parent's Grief"***

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

#### ***Monthly Men's Breakfast***

Every 3rd Monday, at 9:00 a.m.  
Frisch's Restaurant  
7401 Dixie Highway

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

#### ***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.**

### From Our Kitchen To Yours

by Bill Longest



### Swedish Meatballs

2 lb ground chuck  
½ c. bread crumbs  
1 package dried onion soup  
2 eggs  
2 tsp. Accent (spice)

Mix all together. Roll ground chuck into bite size balls. Fry in margarine until brown.

#### Sauce

2 bottles of Ketchup  
1 10oz. jar of apple jelly (clear)

Mix in separate pan. Heat until it is hot all the way through, then add meatballs. Keep warm and serve. These are fantastic!