



Dorris Oneal Herndon

March 31, 1939 - October 8, 2022

Dorris Oneal Herndon, 83, passed away Saturday, October 8th, 2022. Dorris was born in Big Rock, Tennessee on March 31, 1939, to Robert and Earline Herndon. The family later moved to Hopkinsville, Kentucky where Dorris and his brother Owen played basketball for Hopkinsville High School. After high school, he married Judy Farmer and in 1964 moved to Louisville, Kentucky to open a Convenient Food Mart. During his 40 year career, he owned and operated three Convenient Food Marts in Shively. After retiring from the stores, he worked for Miller Transportation as a bus driver for 14 years where he was known as Mr. D.

His hobbies included crappie fishing, watching UK basketball and football games (win or lose), and being a Granddad! His family was the center of his life. Dorris and Mary Willhite got married in 1983. They purchased a cabin at Rough River Lake in 1991 which they named "Little Barkley" where they enjoyed hosting family and friends for over 30 years. He was a member of Shively Baptist Church for many years and currently is a member of Southeast Christian Church.

He is survived by his loving wife Mary of 40 years. Left to carry on his legacy are his children, Jeff Herndon (Barbara), Diane Davis (Darrell), Mike Willhite (Angie), and Michelle Westerfield (Eric); his 11 grandchildren Cortnie Collins (Chad), Ryan Davis (Elizabeth), Jennifer Jarvi (Jason), Christy Britt (Thomas),

Amelia Fischer (Ryan), Marissa Willhite, Makayla Willhite, Jonathon Willhite, Gabrielle Willhite, Kyle Westerfield (Sydney) and Keri Westerfield; his 12 great-grandchildren Maxston, Parker, McKinley, Ryder, Knox, Pepper, Allison, Matthew, Charlie, Travis, Hallie, Grayson; one brother, Owen Herndon (Eadie); and nephews Greg, Aaron and Jeremy.

Visitation will be from 12-8 p.m. Thursday, the 13th of October and Friday from 12-1 at Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Hwy. Funeral service will be Friday at 1:00. Burial will follow in Bethany Memorial Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Humane Society of your choice in memory of his two faithful rescue dogs George and Kellie. The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff and nurses at Franciscan Healthcare Center.

Cemetery Details

Bethany Memorial Cemetery

10917 Dixie Hwy
Louisville, KY 40272

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **13**. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Visitation

OCT **14**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Service

OCT **14**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway

5317 Dixie Highway

Louisville, KY 40216

(502) 447-2600

<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *I had the pleasure of working with him at Miller Transportation and always loved the Christmas Cards from him and his wife. He was a very kind person .*

Linda Ireland - October 17, 2022 at 07:23 PM



“ *Every memory I have of Dorris is a positive one. Whether it be staying with him and my Aunt Mary after freezing all day watching state title football games in Louisville, going to Kentucky games or hanging out at the lake, Dorris was always great to me and my family. He just had this calming presence about him and that everything would be okay. He was truly one of a kind and a special person. My life and many others are better because he was a part of it. You are and will continue to be missed. Love you!*

Jed Roth - October 15, 2022 at 07:16 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



October 13, 2022 at 04:28 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



October 12, 2022 at 09:16 PM



“ *Mark & Denise purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



Mark & Denise - October 12, 2022 at 12:52 PM



“ *As I sit and reflect on those individuals who had a positive impact on my life and other lives, Dorris quickly comes to mind. He provided me with a job at his Convenient Store which gave me an avenue for monetary funds to attend college, buy my first car, and learn many positive life lessons. I will forever be indebted to him for his willingness to hire me and for his kindness. I also saw a man that provided so much for so many through his kind generosity. The world is a much better place because Dorris was here.*

Larry Carlton - October 11, 2022 at 10:36 PM

JW

“ *Kindness is the greatest wisdom - Author unknown Dorris personified kindness and humility. A gentle giant is how I came to view him. We first met in 1993 when he and Mary's daughter, Michelle, and my son Eric were married. A family bond began that day and subsequently grew stronger over the years, with in- laws often spending holidays and family vacations together. The two blended families became one large family. Dorris became a type of surrogate granddad to two of my grandsons, as their grandfathers were deceased. Both boys are now young adults and obviously respect and love Dorris for the man they came to know over the years. He was always thinking of others before himself. May his loved ones find a degree of comfort in knowing that he touched the world in positive ways, releasing never ending ripples of kindness.*

Jackie Westerfield - October 11, 2022 at 02:55 PM

LC

“ *Larry and Wendy Carlton purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



Larry and Wendy Carlton - October 11, 2022 at 08:35 AM

CG

“ *I have many fond memories of Mr Herndon especially as a young person. I remember what a great father he was and how he graciously supported with his time and money school and church activities. As an employer to many of my friends and family he led by example demonstrating that hard work and dedication brings success. But I will mostly remember how kind he was to me personally. Rest in sweet peace Mr. Herndon.*

Carla Goldsmith - October 10, 2022 at 09:19 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



October 10, 2022 at 08:35 PM



“ *I remember Dorris as a gentle and kind man. I loved when I joined the Westerfield family vacations and I had the honor to spend time with Dorris and Mary. They both were so hospitable and sweet to me. Dorris will missed. I wish him heavenly peace. My deepest condolences to the family.*

Kathy Huber - October 10, 2022 at 07:25 PM



“ *Dorris was a kind and thoughtful person. He enriched our lives with his grace and dignity. Rest In Peace, Mark and Joanie Mullin*

joanie mullin - October 10, 2022 at 06:38 PM



“ *My brother from another mother! I love this man and his family! It is one of the highest privileges of my life to officiate the service which honors Dorris. All of us who will be there [and countless others] are huge fans of this Kentucky Fan! My Brother---Rest in peace---Rise in Glory!*

Larry Burgess - October 10, 2022 at 05:36 PM



So very sorry for your loss. My heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to the family. May God bless you at this difficult time!

Pat Eckerle Panter - October 10, 2022 at 07:10 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



October 10, 2022 at 04:15 PM



“ *Touching Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Dorris Oneal Herndon.*



October 10, 2022 at 03:54 PM