



William Joseph 'Willie' Steilberg

June 12, 1957 - June 20, 2026

STEILBERG, William Joseph "Willie" was born in Lexington, Kentucky on June 12, 1957. His family moved to Valley Station where Willie could experience all things possible for a young boy who loved the outdoors. His parents provided loving, strong Christian home for their family. Willie enjoyed Boy Scouts, camping with his family, bowling, riding dirt bikes with his cousin, family trips, hanging out with his best buds, working out at the gym, and tinkering with engines. He graduated from Stuart High School in 1975. In the next chapter of Willie's life, he met the love of his life in 1977 after being set up by a lifelong friend. He married Kathy in May of 1979. He went on to earn a degree in auto mechanics which led him to successfully obtain his career at the Louisville Water Company.

Willie was a committed Christian who served as an elder at Faith Presbyterian Church. He showed up early to prepare the church for services. He was also committed to keeping the church grounds looking beautiful. He walked with his family holding hands with his wife, daughter, and granddaughter throughout his life at Faith while smiling at all the loving members.

Willie's love of fixing mechanical things led him to his passion for racing dirt bikes and cars. He raced a 1968 Camaro he owned as a teenager and a 1984 Monte Carlo SS. He raced at Ohio Valley and various other tracks where he met lots of people who loved fast cars as much as he did.

Willie and Kathy loved their many trips to Florida. First, their honeymoon, then trips with Kathy's family, with dear friends, and his sister Liz's family. Highlights included Disney trips with his daughter, Sarah. He made sure to carefully plan his granddaughter, Emma's, first trip to Disney World. It was the trip of a lifetime!

Willie had a big heart when it came to his family and friends. He did everything in his power to help people he cared about throughout his life. He was a thoughtful person who showed he cared not just by his words but through his actions. He generously shared his faith and love with his family. He never complained! He gave his all until he passed away to a better place on June 20, 2026.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Arthur Jesse Steilberg, Jr., and Patricia Ann (Willoughby) Steilberg; and his sister-in-law, Jerrilyn Roland.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; daughter, Sarah (Justin); granddaughter, Emma Kathleen; sister, Liz (Clint); brother-in-law, Ray (Helga); sister-in-law, Edna (Donny); as well as aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, and cousins, including Don Summerfield who will be officiating Willie's service.

Visitation will be Wednesday, June 24, 2026, 1-7pm at Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Highway. Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, June 25, 2026, 1pm at funeral home with burial to follow at Bethany Memorial Cemetery.

The family would like to thank everyone at Centerwell who provided compassionate care to Willie.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Willie can be made to the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Bethany Memorial Cemetery

10917 Dixie Hwy
Louisville, KY 40272

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 24. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Burial

JUN 25. 1:00 PM (ET)

Bethany Memorial Cemetery
10917 Dixie Highway
Valley Station, KY 40272

Funeral Service

JUN **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

SF

“ *Steele Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of William Joseph 'Willie' Steilberg.*



Steele Family - 1 hour ago

SF

“ *Steele Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Joseph 'Willie' Steilberg.*

Steele Family - 1 hour ago