



Wilber Frank Howard

February 28, 1957 - August 19, 2025

Wilber Frank Howard, 68, ascended to eternal peace on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, in Southaven, MS, leaving behind a legacy of love, perseverance, and devotion. A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, August 23, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., followed by a memorial service at 2:00 p.m. at Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven (626 Star Landing Road East Southaven, MS 38672), a testament to the impact of his life. Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven is honored to handle the arrangements.

Wilber's remarkable career as a dedicated truck driver was a shining example of his unwavering perseverance, later serving as the Safety Director at Cooper Freight—a role that brought him immense pride and fulfillment.

His love for baseball was only matched by his pride in watching his oldest son play. As a former drag racer, Wilber had a profound passion for racing and cherished every moment watching his youngest son and grandson compete at Riverside Speedway in West Memphis, inspiring generations to come.

Wilber's sharp wit and sense of humor could light up a room, yet he also possessed a quiet seriousness that commanded respect, a true embodiment of inspiration. He showed his love through selfless actions—whether through years of tireless work or peaceful moments fishing for crappie, one of his favorite pastimes, reminding us all of the importance of living in the moment. He found solace in life's simple joys, and his greatest joy was his loving family,

a treasure he cherished deeply.

Wilber was a devoted husband to Kathy, with whom he would have celebrated a remarkable 50 years of marriage this November, a true testament to the power of enduring love. As a steadfast provider, protector, and guiding force, Wilber's presence was the backbone of his family, and his memory will continue in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

Wilber is survived by his beloved wife, Kathy Whitehurst Howard of Southaven; his two sons, Tim Howard of Hernando and Mike Howard of Nashville, TN; his four grandchildren, Chris Howard of Tupelo, Erica Howard of Memphis, Hunter Howard of St. Louis, MO, and Caleb Howard of Horn Lake, MS; his sister, Kathy Dale (John) Wooten of Alabama; his brother, Marion (Johnnie) Howard of Blytheville, AR; many friends; and extended family members, all of whom will deeply miss his presence.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Dale Howard, who will welcome him home with open arms.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **23**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven
626 Star Landing Rd E
Southaven, MS 38672
(662) 349-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<http://www.colemanfuneralhomeSH.com>

Celebration of Life

AUG **23**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven
626 Star Landing Rd E
Southaven, MS 38672
(662) 349-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<http://www.colemanfuneralhomeSH.com>

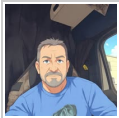
Tribute Wall



“ Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven created a Tribute Video in memory of Wilber Frank Howard



Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven - August 22, 2025 at 04:41 PM



Didn't have many friends but I am so happy to say he was a good friend of mine!!! Fly high mr,wiber

Johnny Moya - August 24, 2025 at 04:09 PM



“ 122 files added to the album LifeTributes



Coleman Funeral Home of Southaven - August 22, 2025 at 04:35 PM

CS

“ Cooper Freight Drivers & Staff purchased the Dawn of Remembrance Basket for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.



Cooper Freight Drivers & Staff - August 22, 2025 at 01:36 PM

LT

“ Linda Webb, Jessie and Justin Turnmire purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.



Linda Webb, Jessie and Justin Turnmire - August 22, 2025 at 12:49 PM

BH

“ Brandy and Caleb Howard purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.



Brandy and Caleb Howard - August 22, 2025 at 11:57 AM

JF

“ Jimmy & Brenda Howard & family purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.



Jimmy & Brenda Howard & family - August 22, 2025 at 11:01 AM

DM

“ Wilber was one of a kind. He was a mentor and friend. I learned to have faith in myself and try harder. Wilber was a wonderful person and had a big impact on my life. I will forever remember his guidance and faith and his love of my dog Lucy

Debbie Messina - August 21, 2025 at 11:18 PM

AC

“ Wilber was a great man and a mentor to me and many others. It is no exaggeration to say without him I wouldn't have a career. He will be sorely missed. My prayers to his family

Aaron Carden - August 21, 2025 at 07:07 PM

AM

“ Alvie & Lisa Maness purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.



Alvie & Lisa Maness - August 21, 2025 at 06:45 PM

RW

“ Ron and Linda Whitehurst purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.



Ron and Linda Whitehurst - August 21, 2025 at 05:55 PM

JT

“*Wilber was the best. He was more than boss, he was a friend. We talked about racing, trucking, or whatever was going on. I was always telling him jokes. He would tell me stories about things he'd seen and done. He will forever hold a special place in my heart.*”

Jamie Tallman - August 21, 2025 at 03:45 PM

CB

“*Connie Baker purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Wilber Frank Howard.*”



Connie Baker - August 21, 2025 at 02:58 PM

AM

“*Wilber wasn't just my boss—he was a true inspiration in my life. Every day, I still find myself asking, 'What would Wilber do?' He was more like a father figure than a boss, always fair, kind, and genuine—truly one of a kind. I will never forget the way he supported me during one of the hardest times of my life when my dad was passing, and I will always be grateful for the compassion he showed. Wilber taught me so much, not just about transportation, but about life itself. I will miss him deeply, but his legacy will continue to live on in all the lives he touched.*”



Alexis McCuiston - August 21, 2025 at 02:41 PM

LA

“ I met Kathy and Wilbur in November of 1972 when we moved to Horn Lake from Walls. Both of y'all were friendly, and welcoming. Kathy lived in Pecan Subdivision-first house on the left as you turn in, and so did my grandparents.

Kathy was a cheer-leader, beautiful and friendly, just as she is now. Wilbur was handsome, one of the most popular guys at school and had a great sense of humor. If memory serves, y'all have been married 50 years, or soon would have been.

I'm heart-broken for your family, Kathy. Been praying for y'all since I found out about Wilbur's illness. I won't stop praying. I love you both dearly. I'd just add one scripture that I hope will give you comfort: God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. (Matthew 22:32b). Much love. Lani Burnette Rinkel

Lani - August 21, 2025 at 01:29 PM