

Remember Me

By Anthony Dawson

Speak of me as you have always done. Remember the good times, laughter, and fun.

Share the happy memories we've made. Do not let them wither or fade.

I'll be with you in the summer's sun, And when the winter's chill has come.

I'll be the voice that whispers in the breeze. I'm peaceful now, put your mind at ease.

I've rested my eyes and gone to sleep, But memories we've shared are yours to keep.

Sometimes our final days may be a test, But remember me when I was at my best.

Although things may not be the same, Don't be afraid to use my name.

Let your sorrow last for just a while. Comfort each other and try to smile.

I've lived a life filled with joy and fun. Live on now, make me proud of what you'll become.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOTE OF THANKS

The family of the late Wilkie T. Buchanan Sr. extends our heartfelt thanks to all who have shown love and support during this time of loss. Your prayers, kind words, and gestures of compassion have brought us comfort. We are especially grateful to Pastor Larry J. Crismon II and the Bright Temple family, Pastor Jason Scales and Believer's Faith Fellowship family, and the wonderful staff at Compassus Hospice, Tullahoma, TN. May the Lord bless each of you in spirit, soul, and body as you continue to celebrate his life with us.

PALLBEARERS

Anderson Buchanan
James Lentz
Joseph Buchanan
George Buchanan
Terrell Buchanan
Steven Buchanan
Willie Buchanan III
Kerry Marable

FLOWER BEARERS

Janet Lanier
Deborah Lentz
Joyce Ann Buchanan
Cathy Lentz
Mamie Love
Mary Rucks
Rosel Wright
Carla Johnson
Sharon Trice
Tina Frazier
Terry Frazier
Yvonne Carey
Debra K. Price
Portia Hamilton
Elaine Fox

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Ryan Buchanan
Ron Moulden
John Davidson
Joe L. Frazier
James Biggers

HONORARY FLOWER BEARERS

Ricki Rippy
Henrietta Biggers
Mattie Harris
Lynda Johnson
Bonita Stewart
Jewel Key
Compassus Nurses

NELSON & SONS

Murfreesboro · Shelbyville
(615) 494-5001 (931) 685-4200
Funeral Directors: Albert, Demetrius
& Brandon Nelson
www.nelsonandsons.net



Celebrating the life of

Wilkie T. Buchanan, Sr.

September 24, 1940 - May 6, 2025

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Family Visitation: 1:00 P.M. - Funeral Service: 2:00 P.M.

Bright Temple COGIC

516 Elm Street - Shelbyville, TN

OBITUARY

Wilkie T. Buchanan Sr., age 84, was born on September 24, 1940, in Shelbyville, Tennessee, to Rosa Lee (Anderson) Buchanan and Willie Lee Buchanan. He peacefully transitioned from this life on May 6, 2025, in Shelbyville.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers—Andrew Buchanan, Robert T. Sims, and George W. Buchanan—and eight sisters: Mary E. Sims, Irene Boyd, Jennie Mae McCorry, Rosie Lee Marks, Ollie Claybrooks, Wilma C. Buchanan, Bettie Lou Ferguson, and Leanna Fishback.

Wilkie graduated from Bedford County Training School, where he was a standout athlete in both football and basketball. He went on to attend A&I University—now known as Tennessee State University (TSU)—on a football scholarship. During his high school and college years, he worked as a lifeguard, a job that reflected his lifelong love of people and the outdoors. His passion for sports extended into adulthood, where he coached an adult women’s softball team and occasionally officiated basketball and softball games. He later coached his sons’ soccer teams, always leading with encouragement and enthusiasm.

A natural businessman, Wilkie owned and operated two popular entertainment venues in his early years—the Gold Rush in Shelbyville and the Silver Dollar in Bell Buckle, Tennessee. These establishments drew crowds from near and far with performances by well-known bands including Jimmy Church, Bottom & Company, and Freddie Waters. His own local band The Young Rebels also brought joy and excitement to the community. His favorite artist, without question, was James Brown.

Wilkie was a devoted member and Deacon at Bright Temple Church of God in Christ, where his heart for children led him to serve in the children’s ministry. Affectionately known as "Uncle Wilkie" to many youth, he organized annual golf tournaments to benefit the ministry. His opening and closing remarks at these events were always a blend of humor, heart, and inspiration.

Professionally, Wilkie worked for Life of Georgia Insurance, retiring after many years of dedicated service. Never one to sit still, he launched a successful lawn care business in retirement. As he often said, "If I had known how much money was in cutting grass, I would’ve never sold insurance!"

On June 26, 1971, Wilkie married the love of his life, Diana Lee Buchanan, and together they shared 54 beautiful years. In his later years, Diana exemplified unwavering devotion, caring for him with extraordinary compassion, strength, and grace—by his side every step of the way.

Wilkie leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and generosity. He is survived by his beloved wife, Diana Lee Buchanan; two sons, Wilkie T. Buchanan Jr. and Wendell Tobias Buchanan; a devoted daughter-in-law, Brande Buchanan; and three cherished grandsons: Wilkie T. Buchanan III (Trey), Tytus Ronin Buchanan, and Torin Bryce Buchanan. His surviving siblings include Emma Jean Lentz, Rose Marie (Bobby D.) Peacock, and Willie Lee “Termite” Buchanan Jr., all of Shelbyville, and Josephine (Frank E.) Frazier of Rockvale, TN.

He also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends who will miss his sense of humor, big hugs, and unforgettable presence.

ORDER OF SERVICE

- OFFICIANT → PASTOR LARRY J. CRISMON II
- INVOCATION → MINISTER & FAMILY
- SCRIPTURE & PRAYER → PASTOR LARRY J. CRISMON II
JOHN 3:16
- MUSICAL SELECTION → CHOIR
- WORDS WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS → 3-5 MINUTES EACH
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS → YVONNE CAREY
- MUSICAL SELECTION(S) → CHOIR
- EULOGY → PASTOR LARRY J. CRISMON II
- RECESSIONAL → “GOING UP YONDER”



INTERMENT

Willow Mount Cemetery
Shelbyville, TN

