



Duane Ellis

September 30, 1936 - September 18, 2021

Duane V. Ellis, 84, went to heaven on Saturday, September 18, 2021. Buddy, as he was fondly called by his family, was born in Frankfort and lived here his whole life, graduating from Elkhorn High School in 1955 and the University of Kentucky in 1959. An avid UK fan, he spent many, many hours cheering on and talking about his beloved Wildcats. He loved sports, coaching his son in both baseball and basketball, and could be found most afternoons after work acting as the designated pitcher for the neighborhood children's softball games. He always made time to be with, help, and just enjoy others.

Duane was a U.S. Army veteran and worked his whole career in the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, retiring as the director of the Division of Accounts in 1987. He belonged to a number of organizations including KPR (Kentucky Public Retirees), the Elkhorn Alumni Association, and Rotary. A member since 1974, he never missed a weekly Rotary meeting until his health failed shortly before his death.

He was always involved in his community, lending a hand wherever he could, and worked for several years as the County Treasurer after he retired. In addition, he worked hard helping to start up the Soup Kitchen and served as its first Executive Director. He was also involved in establishing the Thornhill Learning Center and served on its Board for years. Duane was very active in his church as well. He taught Sunday School for over 60 years and served as both a deacon and the church treasurer for much of that time. It was always very important to him to volunteer and help out whenever possible.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Lorena Ellis. He is survived by his wife, Marie; his sons Kent (Kim) and Robin (Stacey); his grandchildren Kristen and Noah; his brothers Jim (Linda) and Larry (Wanda); and his nephews, nieces, great-nephews, and great-nieces.

An End of Life Celebration will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Bluegrass Care Navigators.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory.

Comments



“ Duane was well known in Frankfort and I appreciated all he did for his community and church. Marie, I am thinking of you and know you have fond memories of Duane, along with his sons. Hold them near to your heart. Prayers and love sent your way.

Brenda Duvall

Brenda Duvall - September 27 at 11:58 AM



“ Duane was a good friend and neighbor. May you be conformed by loving family and friends in the days ahead.

Marilyn Colt - September 25 at 01:11 PM



“ I first met Duane in the mid 1970s at a men's Christian breakfast and fellowship he certainly remained faithful to his lord until the end and that speaks volumes about his life and walk with god will be much in prayer for his entire family in the days ahead
Bruce wyne

bruce wyne - September 24 at 04:22 PM



“ My wife and I knew Duane threw state government. I got to really know Duane through Rotary and working together at the Thornhill Learning Center. Duane and I shared lunch together frequently at Rotary sharing family experiences. He was a warm, caring, and kind. He was a man of integrity and honesty. A great Christian example. The life he lived is reflected in his two fine sons Kent and Rob. While we will miss him, we celebrate a life well lived in serving others.

Steve&Cheryl Dooley - September 24 at 11:52 AM



“ Heaven's gain and our loss. Duane not only taught the word of God but more importantly lived as an example for us all. He will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in peace my friend.

Harold Purvis

Harold Purvis - September 24 at 07:27 AM