



Gene Austin Dodson

NOV 29, 1929 - DEC 31, 2015



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Gene Austin Dodson, 86, passed away on December 31, 2015, surrounded by his family. Gene was born the only child of Leonard and Jewell Dodson of Beulah, Kentucky, on November 29, 1929. He married Frances Robertson of Bardwell, Kentucky. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, four sons: Gregory (Karen), Keenan (Mona), Kevin (Lynda) and Kenneth (Julie); ten grandchildren: Julie Turner (Ty), Brian, Sarah Sides (Jeff), Kelly Grubbs (Danny), Will, Devin (Holly), Dena Davis (Matt), Davis (Allie), Brandon (Rebecca), and Deanna Weaver (John); and six great-grandchildren: Kaleb, Luke, Jonah, Milly, Riley and Daniel. After graduating from Milburn High School in Milburn, Kentucky, Mr. Dodson attended Murray State University before working in the Engineering Division on the Atomic Energy Project at Paducah. He then served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict and after his discharge entered The University of Alabama where he received a degree in Civil Engineering in 1957 as the Alabama Road Builders Civil Engineering Honor Graduate of the Year. Mr. Dodson started his professional engineering career with the Kentucky Department of Highways as a Design Engineer in the Bridge Division. He then joined the Memphis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1959. At the Corps of Engineers, Mr. Dodson worked in a series of increasingly important positions and achieved his Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Memphis State University in 1969. He was named Chief of the Engineering Division in 1972 – the position from which he retired in 1994 after serving the longest of any active Chief of Engineering at that time. He received numerous awards from the Corps including the Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award and Memphis District Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees. He served on the advisory board of the Herff College of Engineering, was named an Outstanding Engineer of the Year by the Memphis Joint Engineers Council and was a life member and Distinguished Engineering Fellow with the American Society of Civil Engineers.



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He was appointed a Department of Civil Engineering Outstanding Fellow and a Distinguished Engineering Fellow by The University of Alabama in 1992. He was a member of Tau Beta Pi honor society, Chi Epsilon, Military Engineers and a life member of the Engineers' Club of Memphis. Mr. Dodson was an ordained Baptist deacon and taught Sunday School continually throughout his life beginning in his teens at his home church, Beulah Baptist in Hickman County, Kentucky. He served his church, nation and community with honor, dignity and professionalism. Visitation will be Tuesday, January 5, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Cherry Road Baptist Church, 1421 Cherry Road, Memphis, with services to follow at 2 p.m. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, January 6, at the Beulah Community Cemetery, 8039 State Highway 307, Fancy Farm, Kentucky. Remembrances may be sent to Beulah Cemetery c/o Donald Courtney, 630 State Route 1748, Fancy Farm, KY 42039. Arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery. "Celebrating Life... Behind the Stone Wall"



Tribute Wall

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ST

Stan posted:

I bought in Poland Oldsmobil Dynamic 65" i have old owner identifcaton card from MR Frances & Gene A.Dodson Elkwood cove , its sad that he pass away ?? but his car still works

December 10 at 10:01 AM

MP

Memorial Park posted:

Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Dodson.

January 3 at 12:09 PM

JT

Jean Tysinger posted:

I did not have the pleasure of meeting Mr.Gene Dodson,but what I have heard from Danny I missed meeting a great ,very kind and gentle man.My prayers are with all of the family during this time of sorrow. May God bless all of you.

January 3 at 11:00 AM

KT

Kenny, Alissia, Alex And Brett Thornton posted:

Kenny, Alissia, Alex and Brett Thornton purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Gene Austin Dodson.

January 2 at 5:50 PM

JK

Jeanna Kimbell posted:

Prayers for the Peace of Christ to comfort each of you. I remember Gene as a true gentleman at the Courtney reunions each year. Jeanna Kimbell (Dodie's daughter)

January 2 at 4:26 PM

JA

Jerry Lee Anderson posted:

Greg,,no telling how many young men your father inspired to be the best engineer that he could be. Mr Dodson was the epitome of the Canons of the Civil Engineering profession.He will be sorely missed.

January 2 at 2:34 PM



Tribute Wall

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MP

Memorial Park posted:

Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Dodson.

January 2 at 11:38 AM

TK

The Robertsons & Crawford (James & Kath) posted:

The Robertsons & Crawford (James & Kathy, Linda & Bob) purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Gene Austin Dodson.

January 2 at 10:33 AM

JT

Julie Dodson Turner posted:

We love you, Pap! Thanks for being such a good example to us all – of how to follow God, work hard and still put family first. Yours was definitely a life well-lived. Always so humble, your life accomplishments were so impressive but I know you count all of us – your family – as your biggest accomplishment. And we are just as proud of you as you are of all of us. I'll always remember how you put \$5 bills in the plastic Easter eggs, so when some of us grandkids got a little older we had something to hunt for. And how every year when we ran into you and Nana at the Germantown Festival, you would insist on buying us each our very own funnel cake – even if we kept telling you over and over that we couldn't eat the whole thing. Trips to Kentucky with you will always be some of my fondest childhood memories. Thanks for being such an incredible grandfather to us all. We will miss you!

January 2 at 4:45 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Austin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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