



Frank Elliott Bowles

June 5, 1918 - July 24, 2013

Frank Elliott Bowles, 95, of Charlotte, died peacefully at home on Wednesday, July 24, 2013. Frank was born June 5, 1918 in Clarksville, TN to Marcus James and Etta Mae (Williams) Bowles. He and his wife Dorothy were married July 7, 1935 and moved to Eaton County in 1937 working for a local farmer. Three years later, he went to work for Farmer's Elevator in Charlotte, which later became Farm Bureau where he became the manager of the grain plant on M-50. After 27 years at Farm Bureau, he bought the Potterville Grain Elevator in 1961, retiring 32 years later after a lifetime as a grain man. Frank served his community in many ways including serving on the Potterville Chamber of Commerce and the Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital Board. Frank also stayed very active in his Church, serving as Sunday School Superintendent, Youth Leader, and Song Leader. He and Dorothy attended church 20 years in Eaton Rapids, 20 years in Lansing, and 20 years at First Baptist Church in Charlotte. Many will remember how much Frank loved to dispense his hospitality to friends and family over a nice meal. Frank never met a stranger or a person he couldn't talk to. Frank is survived by his wife, Dorothy; daughters Martha (David) Smart, and Frankie (Lewis) Johnson; 5 Grandchildren, 15 Great-grandchildren, and 8 Great-great-grandchildren. Frank was predeceased by his brother James, his sisters, Willie Mae, and Vivian, along with 3 Grandchildren. Funeral Services for Mr. Bowles will be Friday 2:00 PM at the Pray Funeral Home with Rev. Robin Crouch and Rev. William Kinnan Officiating. Interment will follow in Maple Hill Cemetery. The

family will receive visitors Thursday from 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm and Friday from Noon to 2 pm at Pray Funeral Home. If desired memorial contributions may be made to Sparrow Hospice, or Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital. Family and friends may share memories and condolences through Frank's Online Book of Memories at www.prayfuneral.com <http://www.prayfuneral.com>.

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Sorry to hear of Frank's passing. He was a great friend to my parents and did alot for are family.I'am sure my parents were in line to shake his hand when he arrived in heaven.

Julie (Weaver) Getts - July 27, 2013 at 11:35 PM

HT

“ God has welcomed a very special person 'home'. Our loss is heaven's gain. To Mrs. Dorothy, Martha, Frankie and families we send our love and prayers. 'Uncle Frank' is what everyone called him at Dotsonville Baptist Church. While he was able we looked forward to their visits in June each year. Fond memories of his faith and love for the Lord will always be. God bless and wrap His love around you at this time.

Herbert & Ann McFadden , Tennessee - July 26, 2013 at 12:27 PM

RD

“ Though we can't be with you today, please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Thanks for sharing the photos. I especially enjoyed the one of both of you girls and your father. Your dad looks exactly like I remember him. I am sure you have many good memories of him. Mary

Ray and Mary DeBar - July 26, 2013 at 12:00 PM

DR

“ Martha, Frankie and families: I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you all.

Dottie Ritter - July 25, 2013 at 07:37 PM

RA

“ Our deepest sympathy to you on the loss of Mr Bowles. What a man, he was compassionate, honest, and godly. What a legacy he has left to you. I (Jackie) remember when he would drive the Sunday School bus back in the 1940s and pick us children up to attend Sunday School in Eaton Rapids. Then we lost touch for many years. Later we remember the whole family enjoying time together at the Eaton Place on Sunday for dinner. Many comments have been made about what a happy man he was. How true, he sure made our day whenever he saw us. Heaven is richer today!

Rev. David & Jackie Ames - July 25, 2013 at 05:43 PM

ID

“ Sending prayers for strength, courage and comfort in the days ahead. May God wrap your family in his loving arms . With love Iris Deming

Iris Deming - July 25, 2013 at 02:03 PM

DD

“ Frank was a great story teller and loved to talk with his friends. He and his family would come into our store, Carl V. Reck Jewelers, and we knew we would have fun for the next hour or so while Frank told us his latest news and stories. He always made us smile and could change a bad day into a happy day just by his presence and his tales. He was always one of our favorite customers and we considered him a friend. Many will miss this kind man. Dan and I are glad he had a long life and have a wonderful family. Now that he is in Heaven we know he is telling a story to a new smiling face!

Dan and Pat DeLeeuw - July 25, 2013 at 01:15 PM

DD

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Dan and Pat DeLeeuw - July 25, 2013 at 01:09 PM

SC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Aunt Dorothy, Martha, Frankie and family. Uncle Frank was a very kind man who loved his family very much. May the peace of the Lord be with you.

Steve and Karen Christy - July 25, 2013 at 10:09 AM

CM

“ Dear Dorothy, Frankie and Martha, While we were saddened to read of Frank's passing, we are rejoicing that he now embraces God's gift of eternal life; the life that such a vital part of his life that it defined who he was as a husband, father and friend. We recall, with tremendous fondness, the hours we spent with him. Whether it was in the yard while enjoying a walk in our neighborhood, having a meal after church or sharing in a meeting, Frank was one of the kindest, most compassionate, giving and caring men we have known in our 36 years of ministry. While he will be missed, we anticipate the day when we will join him celebrating around God's magnificent grace. Chuck & Marilyn Moore

Chuck & Marilyn Moore - July 25, 2013 at 06:48 AM

JW

“ *I always said of my dad that he was both a gentleman and a gentle man. I can say the same of you. Even in these last months, you were so gracious to anyone who stopped by for a visit. We'll miss you, but can only imagine the fun you're having shaking hands and patting the backs of the multitude of friends in heaven that have been waiting for you--my dad included!*

Jan Wiltshire - July 24, 2013 at 05:57 PM