



## William "Bill" E. Howard

April 2, 1924 - September 16, 2016

William "Bill" E. Howard, passed away peacefully in his sleep in the early hours of September 16, 2016.

He was preceded in death by his wife Eleanor Grace Howard.

He is survived by one sister, Maxie Howard of Pikeville, KY and two children, Steve (Armina) Howard and Candy (Danny) Roberts all of London, KY; six grandchildren, Carey (Derek) Miller, Braxton (Megan) Howard, William Blake Howard, Elvalina Howard, Bryan (Liberty) Roberts, and Natalie Roberts; five great-grandchildren, Caroline, Avery, Cooper, Denver and Eleanor.

Born April 2, 1924 to the late Sidney and Elizabeth Scott Howard, he grew up on a hillside farm on Johns Creek in Pike County, Kentucky. He attended a one-room school thru 4th grade, prior to attending Johns Creek Elementary School and Johns Creek High School, graduating in 1943 as Valedictorian of his class.

Serving in the US Navy from 1943 thru 1945 in the South Pacific Theatre, his ship was sunk and he was one of a few to survive 10 days in the shark infested waters until being rescued.

He attended Pikeville Junior College in 1946 and the University of Kentucky - College of Engineering thru 1949. After graduation with a B.S. degree in Civil

Engineering, he went to work for the Kentucky Department of Highway Bridge Design. Thru 1952, he was a Resident Engineer for the Kentucky Department of Highway at Wayland, Kentucky.

In 1952, he was one of the first three to be awarded the Highway Graduate Scholarship. While studying for his Master's Degree, he worked at the UK Department of Highway Lab under the direction of Mr. Ellis Williams. He developed the product known as Dense Graded Aggregate Material. This material was adopted by the Kentucky Department of Highways as the base material for most of the highways in Kentucky.

After completing all work for a Masters Degree in 1953, he returned to the Planning Department of the Kentucky Department of Highways where from 1953 to 1956 he was assistant manager of the Department Road Need Study. In February 1956, he was named Assistant Director of Maintenance for bridges.

From May 1957 until 1974, he was the Chief Engineer, Vice President, and President of Greer Bros. & Young. In the late 1960's and the early 1970's Greer Bros. & Young was rated 88th among the top 400 contracting firms in the United States. He was President of Cumberland Valley Coal & Construction Co. from 1971 to 1975.

From 1977 to 1994, he was President and CEO of London Bridge Co., Inc. of London, Kentucky. During this period, he designed and constructed some of the state's largest coal handling facilities, unit train loadouts, preparation plants, and large overland conveying systems. London Bridge constructed many bridges, waste water treatment plants, and water treatment plants.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Association of Highway Contractors from 1966- 1976 and as their President in 1977. He also served

as President of ARBA, a director of KBT, eight years as a director of the Christian Church Home of Kentucky, two years on London City Council, on the Laurel County 4-H Club Council, on the Advisory Board of Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., and on the Highway Contractors' Negotiating Committee for many years. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for the United Steel Workers Pension Fund, one of the founders and President of KY for a Better Transportation and former President of the KY AGC. He served many years as Deacon, Elder, and Trustee in the First Christian Church of London and a member of London Kiwanis Club for many years.

He loved work and people who work. He believed anything could be accomplished with a good work ethic, but when not at work he enjoyed trout fishing in Montana, gardening and the UK basketball and football teams.

Funeral services will be conducted at House Rawlings Funeral Home in London, KY at 4:00 PM on Sunday, September 18. Visitation will be held from 2:00 – 4:00 PM, also on Sunday at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the UK Civil Engineering - 161 Raymond Building - Lexington, KY 40506-0281 and Village Heights Assisted Living - 212 W 12th Street - London, KY 40741.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **18**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

House-Rawlings Funeral Home  
510 East 4th Street  
London, KY 40741  
(606) 864-2158  
info@houserawlings.com  
<https://houserawlings.com>

## Funeral Service

SEP **18**. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

House-Rawlings Funeral Home  
510 East 4th Street  
London, KY 40741  
(606) 864-2158  
info@houserawlings.com  
<https://houserawlings.com>

# Tribute Wall

HM

“ Although I've been long-time friends of the Howard family, I got to know Bill personally about 10 or more years ago. He always had a ready smile and was delighted to tell stories about his past life experiences. He was kind, soft-spoken, and smart, as well as, a man of integrity.

We were neighbors, so one day, I told him not to worry about dinner because I was going to bring him his supper that evening. That evening, supertime came and went. I had completely forgotten about my promise to feed Bill! Mortified, I apologized later-and did make up for my amnesia Thankfully, Bill forgave me. But, he and Steve delighted in making me the object of some good-natured kidding through the years!

I'll sure miss him.

Helen McCoy

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Helen McCoy - September 22, 2016 at 11:59 AM

DA

“ Condolences to the family. David Adams, Adams Construction & family.

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David Adams - September 19, 2016 at 11:52 AM

CM

“ So sorry with you Candy he truly was a great gentleman. Kindest regards & love. Cookie McCollum

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Cookie McCollum - September 18, 2016 at 03:15 PM

LW

“ Louise Watkins lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" E. Howard



Louise Watkins - September 18, 2016 at 02:07 PM



“ 109 files added to the album Life Tributes



House-Rawlings Funeral Home - September 18, 2016 at 10:38 AM

NT

“ Naomi Thomas lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" E. Howard



Naomi Thomas - September 17, 2016 at 09:32 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" E. Howard.*



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September 17, 2016 at 03:48 PM



“ *Hagan And Nelda Codell lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" E. Howard*



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**Hagan and Nelda Codell** - September 17, 2016 at 10:42 AM



*Steve and Armina,*

*Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. I had tremendous respect for Bill and felt honored in knowing and working with him through the years. Hagan and Nelda*

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**Hagan and Nelda Codell** - September 17, 2016 at 10:46 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy in the loss of dear, respected person and the greatest Civil Engineer that I - for many years competed against- and think he was the BEST our industry ever had. I'm sure he will always be remembered. My prayers are with the family. Dick Crist*

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**Dick Crist** - September 17, 2016 at 09:42 AM

TK

“ *The Board of Directors & Past Chairmen of KAHC purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William "Bill" E. Howard.*



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**The Board of Directors & Past Chairmen of KAHC -**  
September 17, 2016 at 08:59 AM

NV

“ *I have fond memories of your Dad serving the First Christian Church. He must have been much more humble than I ever realized as I certainly did not know of many of his accomplishments. There is nothing more valuable than the legacy of a good father. You and Steve certainly have that. Prayers and comfort for your family. Bill and Dad will have a lot to catch up on! Nancy Moberly Valmassoi*

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**nancy valmassoi -** September 17, 2016 at 08:06 AM

JT

“ *Jeannie Turner lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" E. Howard*



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**Jeannie Turner -** September 17, 2016 at 07:29 AM

JT

“ *Bill was my neighbor for many years. He loved his church, family and community. When I would get up in the morning he would already be gone to work. He continued working until a few months before his death. He was a wonderful neighbor and will be greatly missed by all those that knew him. I saw him last Sunday and so glad I got to visit with him that day. My prayers are with his family during this time.*

*Jeannie Turner*

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**Jeannie Turner** - September 17, 2016 at 07:29 AM

SO

“ *Stan, Jerri, Miguel, Steph, Josh and Toni Osborne purchased the With Distinction for the family of William "Bill" E. Howard.*



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**Stan, Jerri, Miguel, Steph, Josh and Toni Osborne** -  
September 16, 2016 at 08:52 PM

MY

“ *Martina Gilbert Yantis sent a virtual gift in memory of William "Bill" E. Howard*



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**martina gilbert yantis** - September 16, 2016 at 07:09 PM

NN

*Candy, I am so sorry for your loss.. I read the obituary for your dad. He seemed like an amazing person. I am sure you were very proud of him.. Love you and Cooper.*

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**Nellie Nicholson** - September 17, 2016 at 12:15 AM