



## George R. Bowden

March 3, 1936 - February 28, 2026

George Richard Bowden, of Maryland Heights, Missouri, passed away February 28, 2026, just three days short of his 90th birthday. He was born on March 03, 1936 in St. Louis, Missouri to Ruby Mae (nee McAdams) and Shon C. Bowden, who have preceded him in death.

Loving husband of 21 years to Carole Bowden (nee Mays); devoted father of George T. Bowden, Kevin (Pat) Bowden, and Linda (Tim) Faith; dear stepfather of Eugene (Jeannie) Brizendine and the late Rhonda Hankins; cherished grandfather of Kelly Bowden, Adam Faith, Eric (Lindsay) Hankins, Brandon (Sarah) Hankins, Emily (Jason) Beger, and Lauren (Christian Waldow) Hankins; great grandfather of five and one-on-the-way; dearest brother of Donald Bowden, the late Shon Bowden, the late Raymond Bowden, the late Iona Masten, and the late Delores Johannpeter. George was also preceded in death by his first wife, Xandra A. Bowden.

George R. Bowden, a devoted husband, proud veteran, and steadfast friend, passed away leaving behind a lifetime of strength, loyalty, and quiet humor.

George met his wife, Carole, at Ameristar Casino by the big fountain — a meeting that would grow into years of companionship and shared joy. Together they enjoyed riding bikes, watching television side by side, and making trips to the casino for a little fun. George also loved simple pleasures,

including visits to Denny's where he would happily order his favorite, the Spicy Skillet. At home, he looked forward to Carole's cooking — especially her spaghetti and pancakes topped with strawberries.

In his younger years, George loved the outdoors. He spent many days fishing in Montgomery City and made treasured trips to Canada to fish for Walleye and Musky with his buddies and his sons. He also hunted small game locally, often in St. John. Those outdoor adventures brought him both peace and lasting memories, as well as lifelong friendships with Charlie and Bill.

George's childhood shaped the strong man he became. As a boy, he helped load coal from the street into his home to keep the fire burning, work that built both his physical strength and emotional resilience. He learned early how to stand up for himself and carried that toughness throughout his life. He was a hard worker from a young age and remained that way all his years.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army from October 1, 1954, to September 26, 1957. As a member of the Paratroopers, he was one of only a few who made it into the squad, while others were taken away by the "meat wagon." George earned the Good Conduct Medal and the Parachutist Badge, honors he carried with pride. He maintained close friendships with members of his squad, even into his twilight years.

Though he did not travel widely, George and Carole made special memories on a trip to Mountain Home, Arkansas, where they visited a crystal mine. In typical George fashion, he removed his brand-new white tennis shoes to protect them from the red clay — a small but telling example of his practical nature.

Later in life, George was content to be at home. A true homebody, he found joy in feeding the birds and squirrels in the backyard and in the comfort of

familiar routines. While he could be a serious man, those who knew him well cherished his dry wit and the humor woven into his military stories.

Above all, George appreciated the loving care his wife gave him throughout their years together. Their life was built on simple joys, loyalty, and devotion. He will be remembered for his strength, his service, his quiet determination, and the deep love he shared with his family and friends.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 4. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood  
10301 Big Bend Road  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
(314) 965-8228  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

## Funeral Ceremony

MAR 4. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood  
10301 Big Bend Road  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
(314) 965-8228  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

*Private burial will follow at a later date.*

## Graveside Service

MAR 9. 12:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood  
10301 Big Bend Road  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
(314) 965-8228  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

# Tribute Wall

LF

“ After many years of prayers my dad was saved on Jan 12, 2026. He said yes to Jesus our Lord and Savior. I will miss him dearly but know he is at peace experiencing the overwhelming love of Jesus.



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**Linda Faith** - March 02 at 07:06 PM