



Trent Calvin Bowen

December 30, 1930 - March 16, 2021

Trent Calvin Bowen (Papa), 90, of Blacksburg, Virginia, stepped into the Lord's presence, without fanfare, early on March 16, 2021. Having reached 90, Trent was in good health until recent years, but never stopped trying to "get better". He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Luella, five brothers and five sisters. Trent married the love of his life, Laurie, in 1952, shortly after meeting on a blind date. He is survived by Laurie and his three children: Beth Howell (Wayne), Trish Snow (Sam), and Rodney Bowen (Adair). He is also survived by nine adored grandchildren and five treasured great grandchildren.

Trent was born on a family farm in Shoals, NC, on a cold December morning in 1930. On the morning he was born, his father brought the family cow into the house so that his mother could milk her during labor. The youngest of eleven children and valedictorian of a high school class of thirteen, Trent was the only one of the family to attend college. Trent played basketball for Wake Forest along the way, and remained active and athletic much of his life. He especially enjoyed golf and snow skiing and incorporated both into his love of travel whenever possible. He and Laurie traveled cross country multiple times, first in a 1968 Volkswagen and later in their motor homes. Their motor home adventures included trips to Alaska, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe.

Trent graduated from Wake Forest University ('52) with honors, and then he

attended law school, receiving his law degree at Duke University in 1955. He was an attorney with State Farm Insurance for 35 years, finishing his career in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 1992. Trent was a kind, gentle, mild-mannered man with a dry sense of humor that he used every single day of his life. He loved family, friends, strangers and God, and was famous for his “projects” throughout his life. One of Trent’s favorite quotes was, “A penny saved is a penny earned.”

Trent enjoyed teaching his children and grandchildren all sorts of skills, from mowing grass to painting to wood working. He was well-versed in the art of living frugally but he was also well-known for his generosity. Trent cared about those who struggled, and he was ready to help if his help was needed, working for years with Habitat for Humanity. Trent loved God and lived with the end in mind. He lived well and he wanted to end well, and he succeeded.

A celebration of Trent’s life will be held at 11am on Saturday March 20, 2021, at Blacksburg Baptist Church. The family will receive friends following the service, observing social distancing and masking guidelines. In keeping with his generous nature, Trent donated his body to medical science. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes in his honor can be sent to Blacksburg Baptist Church or The Warm Hearth Foundation.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Blacksburg Baptist Church
550 N Main Street
BLACKSBURG, VA 24060

Tribute Wall

LB

“ I'm so sorry for your loss, he was obviously quite beloved. May your memories and stories ease the sadness of your loss and help you through the days ahead.

Lynn Brammer - March 30, 2021 at 04:30 PM

LW

“ Trent and Laurie were the very first people we met in Virginia. From that moment on they were good friends. Trent was an excellent mentor and role model for all his associates. Everyone respected Trent for his knowledge, his integrity, and his kindness. The world has a little less class without Trent among us. All our best to Laurie and the family. Larry and Annette Wilson.

Larry Wilson - March 26, 2021 at 10:35 AM

CK

“ Trent was a Friend and Mentor to me, particularly in Expenses, when I first came to the Eastern Region of State Farm. He also was the very best sounding board and giving advice when asked. He and Laurie became dear Friends to Cathy and I. We send our most sincere sympathy at this time to Laurie and the entire Bowen family. Rest In Peace my Friend. You were the best ❤️

Chuck and Cathy Kiehl - March 19, 2021 at 12:23 PM

GM

“ I was Trent's secretary for 21 years at State Farm. It was a sad day for me when he retired. Many fond memories come flooding back. I remember Trent telling me about his plans to build their home at Wintergreen. He would even draw diagrams to show me what it would look like. My heartfelt sympathy is extended to Laurie, Beth, Trish and Rodney.

Glenda Morris - March 19, 2021 at 09:42 AM

MH

“ Condolences for your family during this difficult time. Our family lived in the neighborhood next to woodbrook where you lived. I remember seeing Mr. Bowen run very fast with those long legs around our block. At that time, my Dad told me he worked at State Farm with him. Prayers. Marcia Henderson

Marcia Kunkler Henderson - March 19, 2021 at 08:36 AM



“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.



March 19, 2021 at 08:17 AM

WF

“ With sympathy and love, Dave Harris and family purchased the White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.



With sympathy and love, Dave Harris and family - March 19, 2021 at 06:04 AM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.*



March 18, 2021 at 10:11 PM



“ *So many good memories celebrating milestones with this wonderful man and family!! You will be greatly missed here, Papa. 💖 May you have eternal peace. 🙏 Love, The Radfords - Gary, Kim, Alayna & Hunter*



Kim Radford - March 18, 2021 at 09:41 PM



“ *Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you. I am a retired State Farm claims employee. I always enjoyed Trent's visits. Such a great leader. He was always so proud of his family. A very kind and caring man. May he rest in peace.*



Kathy Banks - March 18, 2021 at 08:31 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.*



March 18, 2021 at 06:42 PM

FK

“ From Jerry and kathy purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.



From Jerry and kathy - March 18, 2021 at 05:17 PM

TF

“ Teresa Curtis & Sara Schultze, State Farm purchased the Healing Tears - All White for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.



Teresa Curtis & Sara Schultze, State Farm - March 18, 2021 at 04:10 PM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.



March 18, 2021 at 03:28 PM



“ Yellow & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.



March 18, 2021 at 03:19 PM

MG

“ Lauri, Beth, Rodney and Tricia and families,

I am sorry to hear of Trent's passing. I have fond memories of the summers mom, Linda and I were in Raleigh, visiting Uncle Rodney and Aunt Margaret in Raleigh. Linda, David and I send our love.

David, Linda and Mike Griffin

Mike Griffin - March 18, 2021 at 03:15 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.*



March 18, 2021 at 02:52 PM

MM

“ *Melissa Housman & Alicia Miller purchased the Fields of Europe for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.*



Melissa Housman & Alicia Miller - March 18, 2021 at 02:17 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Trent Calvin Bowen.*



March 18, 2021 at 01:52 PM