



F. Shelton "Papa" Bowen

January 13, 1935 - September 22, 2023

Maurice -

F. Shelton "Papa" Bowen passed away on September 22, 2023, at age 88, in Maurice, Louisiana. He was a beloved family member, teacher, and friend, and he frequently made it known that he had been blessed to live a wonderful life.

He was born in the coal-mining community of Echols, Kentucky on January 13, 1935, but grew up in Central City, Kentucky. He served in the U.S. Army Band in Ft. Knox and Korea, was thankful for the G.I Bill, and received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from Murray State University. On April 17, 1960, he married the love of his life, Martha Jean Stagner. He taught math, physics, and Spanish, retiring from Trigg County Schools in Cadiz, KY in 1992.

He is survived by two children, Dr. Karen (Rusty) Roden and John (Kim) Bowen, and four grandchildren, Thomas and Alex Bowen, and Hallie and John Roden. He was preceded in death by his wife, Martha; his parents, Leslie and Janie Bowen; four brothers, Neal, Glen, Jerry, and Larry; and one infant sister, Emma.

Papa loved seeing the world, travelling to 5 continents and all 50 states. More than that, he loved to expand the world for his students, whom he adored,

believing that “Even the knuckleheads are just knuckleheads, not bad kids!” He and Martha especially enjoyed travelling with his brothers and their wives after they retired. A talented woodworker, he also loved music—everything from Tchaikovsky to Froggy Went a Courtin’. He cherished singing lullabies to his young children and grandchildren. He loved ice cream, and he almost always had a lecture ready, because he knew more trivia than should fit in any one brain.

He was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church (101 Live Oak Blvd, Lafayette, LA), where a Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 30, 2023. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Chorale Acadienne (P.O. Box #53868, Lafayette, LA 70505) or the charity of your choice.

Cypress Funeral Home & Crematory, 206 W. Lafayette St., Maurice, LA 70555, (337) 740-3123, is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **30**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church
101 Live Oak Dr
Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 984-4211

Tribute Wall

SH

“ Karen,

I am so deeply saddened by the news of your sweet dad's passing. Mr. Shelton was dearly loved and admired throughout our Blake community.

I loved his sense of humor, his big smile, and bigger heart. He will be deeply missed.

Shannon Biggs

Shannon - October 05, 2023 at 10:08 AM



“ Southern Magnolia Tree was purchased for the family of F. Shelton "Papa" Bowen.



September 28, 2023 at 09:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of F. Shelton "Papa" Bowen.

September 28, 2023 at 09:07 PM

TL

“ He was a good man with a kind heart. I enjoyed knowing him. Praying for peace and comfort at this time for the Roden Family. Love Todd and Stacy Lollis

Todd Lollis - September 28, 2023 at 06:15 AM

LC

“ *Mr. Bowen was an excellent teacher at Trigg County High. He always made classes interesting. Additionally, he was my Sunday School teacher at Cadiz Church of Christ. His extensive knowledge of the Bible was astounding. The entire family was an asset to the church and to our community. I am so sorry, Karen and John for your loss of a good daddy. Lisa*



Lisa Champion - September 26, 2023 at 08:13 AM