



## Emory B. Williams

April 23, 1937 - May 23, 2023

Emory B. Williams of Tallahassee, Florida, passed away peacefully the evening of May 23 with family by his side.

Emory was born in Graceville, Florida, to Robert Wade and Nannie Eleanor Williams on April 23, 1937. Emory graduated from Graceville High School in 1955 and immediately left the family farm to pursue a career in law enforcement. The beginning of his career was with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Washington, DC, as a fingerprint analyst. It was during this time that he met his wonderful wife Dorothy (Dottie) Harvey. Dottie had also left the family home in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, after high school graduation, and by chance they both lived in the same boarding house in Washington.

They were married in 1958, and the following year, they had their first son, Brian Thomas Williams. Soon after, in 1960, they left Washington to return to Emory's home state of Florida, where he became a deputy sheriff for the Bay County Sheriff's Office. In 1962, their second son, Kerry Lee Williams, was born in Panama City.

During 1962, Emory became a deputy sheriff with the Leon County Sheriff's Office in Tallahassee. From there, he moved to the Florida Sheriff's Bureau in 1964 and in 1967 joined the newly created Florida Department of Law

Enforcement (FDLE). In 1969, Emory graduated from the 83rd Session of the FBI National Academy, receiving his diploma from the President of the United States in the East Room of the White House. In 1974, he earned his bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Florida International University. Emory retired from FDLE in 1977 as deputy commissioner.

In 1977, Emory—along with the former commissioner of FDLE, Bill Reed—co-founded Diversified Management Research. In 1978, they co-founded the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) in Tallahassee. In 2000, Bill passed away, and Emory continued to lead IIR, which became known as the preeminent training and technical assistance firm for federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies across the United States.

Emory served IIR as chairman through September 2020. He remained a member of the board until December 2022, when he officially retired from IIR. Emory was eternally grateful to all the men and women he had the opportunity to work with as IIR was built.

Emory was preceded in death by his mother and father along with three brothers and four sisters. Emory is survived by his loving wife Dottie and his two sons Brian (Laurie) and Kerry (Jennifer). He is also survived by his three grandsons, Tyler, Dylan, and Ryan, who became another chapter in his life that gave him great pride, joy, and love.

A celebration of Emory's life will be held at 11:00 AM, Thursday, June 1, 2023 at Bevis Funeral Home, 200 John Knox Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32303. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Project, 301 E. Tharpe St. Tallahassee, FL 32303 ([www.Alzheimersproject.org](http://www.Alzheimersproject.org)). Todd Wahlquist is assisting the Williams family with their arrangements (850-385-2193, [www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com))



# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory  
200 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 385-2193

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bevis Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Emory B. Williams*



Bevis Funeral Home - June 01, 2023 at 09:41 AM



“ *Emory was an outstanding person, not only in his Law Enforcement work, but as a true human being. I owe Emory so much. He taught me the skills to become a successful leader. Thank you, Emory, for all you have done to make America safe. And, to Dottie, an awesome lady. James T. Rogers, BGPD, KY (retired) and Director (retired) Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC) Nashville, Tennessee*



James T Rogers - July 19, 2023 at 12:26 PM



“ *Delaine Scarbrough purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Emory B. Williams.*



Delaine Scarbrough - June 09, 2023 at 08:55 AM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Emory B. Williams.*



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June 01, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *I met Emory the day I started at IIR in 2005. He came into my office and sat down and wanted to get to know me. I remember thinking I have never had a CEO visit me before. I knew that day I made the right move working at IIR. Since that day, we have talked many times about the news or history. I went to Emory after graduating the LEO. I knew he had visited wine country and California and I wanted his advice on how to plan a trip there for my wife and I. Emory gave us great advice. Our trip was wonderful thanks to his advice. Emory was always smiling. He was incredibly smart. Thanks to his (and Bill's) vision, IIR continues to thrive. To the family, thank you for sharing Emory with us. This is a big loss, but I know we will see him again.*

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**David Pienta** - June 01, 2023 at 01:33 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Emory B. Williams.*

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June 01, 2023 at 10:23 AM



“ At the end of 2018, I had a follow-up interview with IIR, and Emory was present. Immediately upon meeting him, I knew I wanted to be associated with the company he helped create. I was honored to be selected as CFO, and it has been a highlight of my long career to have associated with such a visionary and great man. I can't imagine the loss to the immediate family, as the loss to the corporate family looms large. Thank you, Emory, for your guidance, humor, candor, and grace.

Kathy Masterson - May 30, 2023 at 08:46 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Emory B. Williams.



May 30, 2023 at 04:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Emory B. Williams.

May 30, 2023 at 04:07 PM



“ Ernest L. purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Emory B. Williams.



Ernest L. - May 30, 2023 at 12:49 PM

MR

“ Emory impacted all of us at IIR, those of us who were a part of FDLE, and indeed the entire national law enforcement community. His dedication to the mission of IIR has made it the successful organization it is today. Countless numbers of people have worked for, or worked with, Emory over the decades of his service. To the family goes our prayers and thoughts. He will be missed, but focus on your memories, his accomplishments and his legacy and allow God's peace to comfort you. Mike & Donna Ramage

Michael Ramage - May 30, 2023 at 12:11 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Emory B. Williams.



May 27, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Emory B. Williams.

May 27, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Emory B. Williams.



May 27, 2023 at 09:40 AM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Emory B. Williams.*



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May 26, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Emory B. Williams.

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May 26, 2023 at 10:26 AM