



Ernest Howe Stevenson

March 15, 1944 - May 3, 2019

It is with great sadness that the family of Ernest Stevenson, beloved husband, dad, teacher, mentor, and friend, announce his passing following a heart attack on May 3, 2019, at the age of 75 years. Even though he will be greatly missed, his family is content that he is no longer in pain and is enjoying a well-deserved rest in the arms of his beloved Savior.

Ernie graduated from Leon High School (class of '62) before attending Auburn through an NROTC scholarship. He served his country from 1966 to 1970 aboard the USS America and USS Hermitage, reaching the rank of Lieutenant. As a civilian, he taught at Godby High School from 1970 to 1990, coaching football and sponsoring huddles for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. In July 1990, he became full-time staff for FCA until August 2018. In addition to leading multiple Bible studies, teaching Sunday School, and singing bass in the choir, Ernie loved FSU sports, saltwater fishing, and bow hunting. He was a people person with a servant heart whose purpose was to draw others to Jesus. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Anne (née Stephens), daughter Lisa Blackwell (John), sister Nell Sanders (Chip), brother Henry (Jeannie), brother Jim, six nieces and nephews, and two grandcats. A visitation will be held from 5 – 7 p.m. on Monday, May 13, at Bevis Funeral Home (200 John Knox Rd, Tallahassee FL 32303), and a memorial service and reception will follow at 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 14, at Thomasville Road Baptist Church (3131 Thomasville Rd, Tallahassee FL 32308).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Fellowship of

Christian Athletes (1382 Timberlane Road, Suite B, Tallahassee FL 32312) or
to Covenant Presbyterian Church

Cemetery Details

Tallahassee National Cemetery

5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Reception

MAY 14. 4:00 AM (ET)

Thomasville Road Baptist Church
3131 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Memorial Service

MAY 14. 3:00 PM (ET)

Thomasville Road Baptist Church
3131 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Tribute Wall

Micki
Minner

“ *Mr. Stevenson was a teacher that brought me to Christ, science and an understanding that my life would be what I made of it...not what was done to me in the past. He made me a science aide, and let me be proud of my accomplishments for the first time in my life. What a special man and teacher.*



Micki Minner - May 29, 2019 at 03:41 PM

KH

“ *He was the strongest Christian man I ever knew. He was always an encourager, kind and gentle. Loved Jesus with all his heart..and his wife, Ann, and daughter, Lisa. Ernie shared his faith with all who knew him. He was an amazing man who touched so many life's over the years. I just know he was smiling when he met Jesus. Ken and I will miss him so much. Our love and prayers for you,Ann and Lisa.*

Ken & Peggi Horn - May 13, 2019 at 06:59 PM

BN

“ *A really great guy. We will miss him. - Bill & Jean Needham*

Bill Needham - May 13, 2019 at 01:25 PM

JB

“ It is with absolute and profound sadness that I write this tribute as my heart breaks at the loss of my good buddy and friend, Ernie. On the other hand, I rejoice in having known this remarkable man of God. The number of people to whom he witnessed personally will be known only in eternity. There are countless fun times we shared as hunting buddies. I’m so glad we made the trip to Texas. I’ll miss his phone calls that seemed to come at exactly the time I needed to hear his encouragement. And lunch at Sonny’s was always his “MO” to drag me away from work to hear his latest and greatest ideas for FCA.

Ann, thank you for sharing him with all of us. Jim Bennett

Jim Bennett - May 13, 2019 at 12:03 AM



“ I met Ernie through my best friend David Hargrove. When i visited Tallahassee I would always try to attend Church and there i met Ernie. I know that Ernie is with Jesus but was honored to meet him and get to know him. Ann you have my deepest sympathy.

Ron Lucas - May 12, 2019 at 07:38 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ernest Howe Stevenson.



May 10, 2019 at 08:06 PM

MJ

“ MIKE, CARLA, BAILEY, & JAMIE purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ernest Howe Stevenson.



MIKE, CARLA, BAILEY, & JAMIE - May 09, 2019 at 04:29 PM

B
BEVIS

“ 87 files added to the album Life Tributes



Bevis Funeral Home - May 09, 2019 at 01:28 PM

CC

“ My wife and I also met Ernie and Anne at St Paul's in 1974. We soon became close through Church, Sunday School, bible study, softball, fishing, scalloping and praying together. He was the only true friend I ever had. No one I ever met had as much love and forgiveness than Ernie. We can all rest in the fact that he is busy reuniting with old friends and the ones who are there because of his selfless lifetime service to Christ.
We miss you more than words can express and look forward to spending eternity with you on the other side.

Charlie and Joyce Castleton

Charlie Castleton - May 07, 2019 at 05:38 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ernest Howe Stevenson.*



May 07, 2019 at 05:34 PM



“ *Robert and I are so sorry to learn of Ernie's passing. He was a wonderful Christian man whose goal in life was to help the young people come to know the Lord as their personal savior. We will miss him. Praying God's comfort for the family.*

Robert and Mary Walsh

Robert and Mary Walsh - May 07, 2019 at 01:47 PM

“ Upon graduating from FSU I returned to Godby HS to start my teaching career. I’ll never forget walking into an FCA meeting at the high school on a Friday morning in 1984 and after the meeting asking if it was OK for band students to attend FCA. His response? Of course, everybody needs Jesus! That started a long, amazing relationship that has spanned 35+ years. Having lost my own father during college, Ernie was like a older brother and father to me. Of course when he found out I loved the Lord and loved to fish, it was “game on!” Laurie and my involvement with the FCA ministry was totally due to Ernie’s influence and spiritual leadership. I learned from Ernie that a house was for FCA meetings! I’ve been at the Stevenson house when it was so packed with teens you could not walk and so hot that his huge attic fan was working overtime. And I’m sure we’ve fished together hundreds of times dating all the way back to that red wooded boat! Basically all I know about catching fish (and fishing for men) I owe to my friend Ernie. I would not trade those memories and life-lessons for anything. “Selfless” is honestly a great descriptor for Ernie. I will never forget the countless number of times we’d stop to eat after a long day on the water (catching tons of fish and solving the world’s spiritual and political problems). The waitress would come over and ask what she could get for us, and after he ordered his very large, unsweetened iced tea with a “bowl” of lemons (and then pour his bag of sweetened lemonade into that unsweetened tea) - he’d look at her and in his gentle southern draw say, “yes, tell us how we can pray for you.” THAT was classic Ernie. He was a living example of what I could only hope and aspire to be like. Honestly, a real-life hero to me. His desire to make an impact for the Kingdom and quest for spreading the good news of Jesus was never-ending - it truly was his mission in life! And while Laurie and I grieve to have lost an AMAZING earthly warrior for Christ last Friday, I know Heaven welcomed him home. I can only imagine that Ernie experienced a “Matthew 25:21 moment,” hearing the words we all aspire to one day hear: “Well done good and faithful servant, well done!” I will dearly miss my friend Ernie. But we will meet again in heaven, I love you Brother!

Mike and Laurie Walsh - May 07, 2019 at 12:03 AM

RB

“ My wife and I met Ernie and Anne at St. Pauls United Methodist church in 1974 shortly after moving to Tallahassee. Ernie's mom (who was a pillar of the church) identified us as visitors and struck up a conversation with us. I am sure just to make us feel welcome and it worked. Shortly thereafter we joined the church and attended there for many years. I actually first met Ernie in a " secret" I thought Shinner fishing hole, that I had baited up on the back side of one of our local lakes. Over the years we developed a bond as I have never had with any other man. We did ministry work, hunted, fished, camped out and fellowshiped together. Ernie was the finest most caring, giving, selfless, person I have ever met. We would often introduce ourselves as brothers with different mothers but the same father. This was code for explaining that our mutual father was God which lead to many ministry opportunities over the years. I believe the song that best describes Ernie and the way he lived his life is sung by Ray Boltz called Thank You. For those of you that know this song I believe would agree that as you hear the scenes described unfold you can see Ernie as he entered Heaven on Friday, May 3rd he would see the line of people waiting there for him as he entered heaven, thanking him because of the selfless and dedicated life he lead to serve his Lord and Savior to reach others for Christ, they were there because of him. I am sure the line stretched for miles as far as his eye could see. Knowing Ernie as we do he would have brushed it off and said it was all about Jesus. This earth lost one of the giants in the service of Jesus Christ when Ernie went to be with our Lord. So my brother from a different mother, I will miss you but am looking forward to being reunited with you someday, and spending eternity in the service of Jesus Christ.
Sincerely and respectfully submitted with love.
Ray and Lynda Burroughs

Ray Burroughs - May 06, 2019 at 10:34 PM

TA

“ I worked with Ernie when with FCA. Ernie would come to Panama City and visit with us and was a great influence in developing the foundation of FCA in the Bay District Schools. Ernie was a true Southern gentleman who loved Jesus but more importantly he lived and walked the walk for everyone to see. I never heard Ernie say a bad word about anyone. Such a positive force for our Lord and Savior Jesus. There is no doubt in my mind that Ernie is rejoicing in Heaven with Jesus. RIP my friend!

Tommy St Amant - May 06, 2019 at 06:02 PM

HS

“Ernie and I called each other, "double-bro," for, not only were we biological brothers, but Christian brothers. He was an amazing guy; very intelligent, very kind-hearted and compassionate, and always ready to help someone in need. His great motivation in life was to know and serve Christ well, and to help others understand how to also know his Savior.

We enjoyed doing projects together, on those occasions when I visited him and Anne. I was impressed by the clever ways he devised to make things, and solve problems.

Ernie's abilities were also evident in the spiritual realm. His leadership developed the N. Fla. FCA tremendously during his years at the helm. But, on a personal note, when I had defected from the Faith by the mid-1970s, he sensed there was a problem - though I had told no one. Out of the blue, one day, he asked if I had read "Evidence that Demands a Verdict." I said, "No," and, without pressure, he simply recommended I do that. I did, and as a result, came to true faith in Christ, in the Spring of 1976..The strength of that faith has grown ever since. There are many, remarkable instances of Ernie's ability to relate to all kinds of people, develop a rapport, and minister to their needs. He loved the Bible, sought to learn, follow and teach it. We all miss him greatly, but now, he is at total peace, being at home with Jesus!

May we all be challenged by Ernie's example of Christian love, character and service.

Henry

Henry Stevenson - May 06, 2019 at 05:00 PM

LT

“ We send our love to the family of Ernest. Whom will be misses by family, friends, and long time neighbors. May the love, kind deeds, and prayers, help as well. Acts24:15. Please read together for the much needed comfort.

Linda Tennent - May 06, 2019 at 11:04 AM

BT

I worked with Ernie for six years when he first became director of FCA. He was the best boss and friend anyone could have. He was with me when my son was killed and was a great comfort. Having to say goodbye to my husband of 62 yrs. just two years ago, I know the deep loss Anne is feeling. He lived his Christian life everyday and is now enjoying heaven. I pray comfort for Anne and Lisa and all the family. He was a wonderful man.

Bertha Thompson

Bertha Thompson - May 06, 2019 at 07:46 PM

RS

Mr. Stevenson was my teacher at Amos P. Godby High School, and it was a joy being in his class because he was easygoing and made learning interesting and enjoyable. He was inspiring with a kind spirit and his Christian life spoke for itself, and was evident by his works and actions. May his beautiful memories be forever embedded in your hearts. My Deepest Sympathy.

*Regina Lowe (Shaw)
Class of 1979*

Regina Shaw - May 07, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ernest Howe Stevenson.



May 05, 2019 at 06:05 PM