



David Keith Sowards Jr.

September 14, 1959 - May 29, 2023

David Keith Sowards, Jr. 63, of Scott Depot, WV went home to be with Jesus on May 29, 2023 at the Hubbard Hospice House, Charleston WV after a short battle with pancreatic cancer.

He was born on September 14, 1959 to Sara Lee Engle Sowards and the late David Keith Sowards, Sr.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his father in-law, McKinley Monroe Mullins.

Dave had the ability to make everyone feel like they were the only person in the room. Dave and Debbie were pillars of their community in every way, including their beloved church family at River Ridge Church in Hurricane. He started his career in nursing which led to a career in medical sales. The last 15 years he worked in financial management ending his career as a Wealth Advisor at Vandalia Wealth Management. His capacity to love everyone as his own, his fun loving humor, his love of Tudor's Biscuits, his love of sports, the outdoors, his enduring faith, and steadfast care and dedication to his loving wife and family are a testament of the legacy that we will all cherish.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 40 years: Debra Sowards; his son: Joshua David Sowards (Bethany) and their children Jase & McKinley

Sowards; his daughter: Brittany Jo Sowards (Samuel Richman) of Queens, NY; mother: Sara Sowards of Scott Depot, WV; brother: Dwayne Sowards (Tammy) of Scott Depot, WV and their children, Jessica, Casey, Taylor, Tyler, Brandon and Payton; and his mother in-law: Norma Mullins of Winfield, among many other loving family members.

A Celebration of Dave's Life will be 4:00pm Saturday, June 3, 2023 at River Ridge Church 1 Saturn Way Hurricane, WV with Pastors Chad Cobb and Andy Tuel officiating.

Friends may visit the family Saturday 2:00pm until 4:00pm at the church.

Anyone wishing to leave an online memory may do so by visiting Dave's tribute page at: www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Daves name to Hubbard Hospice House 1001 Curtis Price Way Charleston, WV 25311.

Chapman Funeral Home 3941 Teays Valley Road Hurricane, WV 25526 is honored to assist the Sowards family again.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 3. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

River Ridge Church
1 Saturn Way
Hurricane, WV 25526

Celebration of Life

JUN 3. 4:00 PM (ET)

River Ridge Church
1 Saturn Way
Hurricane, WV 25526

Tribute Wall



“ *David Keith Sowards Jr.*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *Sending so much love Brittany Jo and her entire family during this incredibly challenging time.*

Kurt Domoney - June 03, 2023 at 03:29 PM



“ *Teri W., Bob & Taylor Ferrera planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Keith Sowards Jr..*

Teri W., Bob & Taylor Ferrera - June 03, 2023 at 11:46 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 03, 2023 at 11:31 AM

SK

“ I don't know the Sowards family as I knew Dave As an orthopedic rep when I worked in the O.R. In Ironton, Ohio. He was always one of my very favorites. Kind, funny, always helpful and he sure loved to talk about his family! He was a very proud husband and father and I'm sure a proud grandfather. My sincere condolences to all of you. Your Dave was a fine man.

Susan Kellogg - June 02, 2023 at 11:07 PM

KE

“ Sympathies and love to you Debbie and the entire Sowards and Mullins families. Dave set such an example as a leader in athletics, in business, as a husband, father, and son. Most of all I will remember the standard he set as a loving, kind, Christian man. I always looked up to Dave and Dwayne as I first knew them through basketball. Our hearts ache for your loss but praise our savior that Dave is in the arms of Jesus. I often still cherish the memories of the P&S Classic Basketball Tournament. It was the highlight of my summer to spend that time with Dave, Ernie, the Poore Family, and all the great friends who competed. I would have chosen to spend 1 day playing in that tournament than spend a week at Myrtle Beach. And that is no small statement, growing up in 1970s-1980s Winfield, as Myrtle was the vacation destination for almost all West Virginians at that time. I am blessed to have spent time growing up and having people in my life like Debbie and her family-Mac, Norma, Melody, and Danny at the Winfield Baptist Church. The Sowards and Mullins families are among the best people I have been blessed to have met. Thank you Davey for your legacy of leadership. I and my family pray the Lords comfort and peace be with you all during this time.

-Kevin Elkins & Family

Kevin Elkins - June 02, 2023 at 05:00 PM

BP

“ *Beth Strait Pounds purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



Beth Strait Pounds - June 02, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ *Dave was the best! We are so saddened by this news. He was our financial advisor for the last 13 years and the only one my husband was willing to talk to about finance. He just had a great way with people. Prayers.*

Randy and Alena Barnett

Alena Barnett - June 02, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 02, 2023 at 01:41 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David Keith Sowards Jr..*

June 02, 2023 at 01:41 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 02, 2023 at 11:13 AM



“ *He was such a positive person who could make you smile no matter what the rest of the day had been like. It was an honor to have known him past decade . My condolences to the Sowards family.*

Mary Johnson - June 02, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 02, 2023 at 08:51 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 02, 2023 at 08:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 01, 2023 at 09:49 PM



“ *I never met Dave but I heard many wonderful things about him from my sister. Dave was her family's financial advisor and she always praised him for being a caring and helpful person and friend. May God grant the Sowards family peace and comfort in this time of sorrow.*

Darlene Langseth - June 01, 2023 at 07:59 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 01, 2023 at 07:42 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 01, 2023 at 05:00 PM

MC

“ I’m so sorry for Debbie and Ernie and their entire family. I’m heartbroken. I’ve known them all since Jr. High and loved them all. My prayers for the entire family.
Marty Chapman

Marty Chapman - June 01, 2023 at 02:35 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..



June 01, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David Keith Sowards Jr..

June 01, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..



June 01, 2023 at 12:16 PM

JR

“ I loved Dave. He was my Best friend and Buddy. Jon Ranson

Jon Ranson - June 01, 2023 at 10:30 AM

TR

“Debbie and Brittany I’m so sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure to help care for your husband/daddy in his time of need. I will keep you in my prayers 🙏

Tara Ramsey - June 01, 2023 at 10:25 AM

PE

“Davey simply was the best of the best as he extended himself through his faith daily in helping others anyway he could. Debbie and Davey’s love story was beautiful, faithful, and the definition of “till death do we part.” His brother Ernie is like a brother to me as well. Watching the love they shared for each other especially “on the farm” was so heartwarming. Davey cherished his Mom and now can join his Father while looking down upon all who loved him. I’ll never forget and always cherish the entire day Davey spent on a bulldozer helping level my sons backyard refusing to take a penny afterwards saying “that’s what brothers and Christians do for each other.” His picture with my son that day will be placed by the backyard fire pit in that yard with the inscription “The yard that Davey Built.” I’ll miss seeing him on Sunday mornings holding the door open and welcoming everybody to RiverRidge church. I love Davey Sowards with my whole heart and continue praying for the entire family. I also envy the place in which Davey is now and encourage all who knew him to extend themselves in helping others and spreading kindness in Davey’s spirit just the way he would want it. Till we meet again brother. On my way to Tudors in your honor. ❤️ 🙏

Perry Estep - June 01, 2023 at 09:43 AM

DF

“ *Debbie and Family,*

I am so sorry for your loss. You and Davey were such good friends during our high school years. You are in my prayers. Rest in Peace to a great High School Basketball teammate.

*Darrell Ferguson
Greensboro, NC*

Darrell Ferguson - June 01, 2023 at 09:39 AM

CL

“ *Dave's support for Barbara & I during one difficult time in our lives was a true commitment to others. Dave was our Prayer warrior, true brother in Christ, teacher, advisor, and strength. We will never forget his commitment and love towards us and our family. We'll always remember the times Dave & Debbie opened their home to our Sunday school class and small group. It is with heavy heart that we say our goodbyes to his earthly body, but there will be that day when everyone Dave touched will be united in Heaven.*

When man leaves this life, all we leave with is our Integrity. Dave certainly met that mark and now is adorned with many jewels in his crown. We hold the Soward's family in our thoughts and prayers! God Bless you Debbie and we are here for you!

Clark & Barbara Lamp - June 01, 2023 at 09:09 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



June 01, 2023 at 07:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



May 31, 2023 at 10:24 PM



“ *Gable Gift Box was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



May 31, 2023 at 06:45 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss Debbie. Did not know him well but you were always so kind to our kids. Shawn Huffman*

Shawn Huffman - May 31, 2023 at 04:54 PM



“ *Debbie and Family,*

I am so sorry for your loss. You and Davey were such good friends during our high school years. You are all in my prayers. RIP to a great High School Basketball teammate.

*Darrell Ferguson
Greensboro, NC*

Darrell Ferguson - May 31, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



May 31, 2023 at 02:31 PM



“ *I met Davey when I was 12 years old having moved to Teays Valley. All of us were always playing some kind of ball, usually in conjunction with the what season it was. (some people may not know that I nicknamed Dwayne "Ernie" during one particular game) Football, baseball and of course, basketball. The hundreds of hours hooping in the Sowards and Poore driveways were played with sheer joy (except when Bryan and Mark had their occasional scrap that would pause the contest).*

We all grew older but remained brothers as our lives led us down different paths, only to meet again, usually at the P and S Classic. We would pick up right where we left off years earlier. Davey loved to tell the story of when I taught him how to shoot a hook shot better, I would always tell him it was essential to use "finesse and authority".

His friendship is something we will cherish. His love will be forever. I look forward to seeing my "little brother" again. And knowing Davey when I see him he will surprise me by buying me breakfast again like he did The last time I saw him at Bob Evans. Enjoy your well earned paradise.

Bob Gobel

Bob Gobel - May 31, 2023 at 01:31 PM



I always wondered why we called him "Ernie"

Joseph Davis - May 31, 2023 at 03:21 PM

DL

I met Dave at Thomas Hospital in his medical sales years—everyone loved to see Dave! He was a person that could connect with anyone! He will be missed by many—just a great guy you were blessed to know!

Dan Lauffer - May 31, 2023 at 07:14 PM

IR

We met Dave when our son married Debbie's sister Melody. He was a pleasure to know thru family events. Having experienced the loss of my father to pancreatic cancer I understand the devastation to the family. Our love to Debbie, Joshua & Brittany.

Iris B Read - May 31, 2023 at 08:46 PM



“*Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



May 31, 2023 at 12:49 PM

JD

“*Debbie,
We are so sorry to hear about David. I have great memories of him growing up in the Valley. Saturday afternoons at Shutters watching the Mountaineers and making "coozies" in grandma's garage. David was also my ER nurse when I was hospitalized with viral meningitis. He had a calming, soothing way about him. His words at Jimmy's funeral were a great comfort to us all. He was a very special person and he will be missed. Our thoughts are with you.*

*Joey Davis.
Princeton, WV*

Joseph C Davis - May 31, 2023 at 11:22 AM

JS

“ *Jacque, Earl and Rae Scyoc purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



Jacque, Earl and Rae Scyoc - May 31, 2023 at 09:25 AM

GK

“ *Debbie, sweet, sweet Debbie, Mike and I cannot express how sad we were to hear about Dave. He was a wonderful neighbor in Sun Valley Estates. A kind man with a quick sense of humor. Our deepest condolences to the entire family and all who knew and loved Dave.*

Glenna Kolvek - May 31, 2023 at 08:24 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David Keith Sowards.*

May 30, 2023 at 10:20 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..*



May 30, 2023 at 10:20 PM

AL

“ Dave was always smiling and always full of positive energy. He made the world a better place. Thank you for that , Dave. You always made me want to do better.

Ally Legg - May 30, 2023 at 09:26 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Keith Sowards Jr..



May 30, 2023 at 08:58 PM

KH

“ Debbie,
So sorry to hear about Davey's illness. I always looked up to him when we were at Winfield High. He was a few years older, but always encouraging when we played basketball.
Dwayne was my teammate and we always shared a love for the Minnesota Vikings!
I hope your family takes comfort in knowing he's in a better place now with no more suffering. Thoughts and prayers to you.
Ken Hanson

Ken Hanson - May 30, 2023 at 08:06 PM

FA

“ *What a burst of positive energy Dave brought to the table. He had a positive vibe and enthusiasm (En Theos- God within) in everything he did. I guess I've known him for nearly 40 years or more. Such a great person. He had a positive impact on every one he came into contact with. Although I hadn't seen him in more than a decade he never changed or wavered. He came from wonderful folks and his in laws and wife were also great people. I considered him a lifelong friend and I was so sorry to learn the news. By the time I heard down here in Texas that he was so very sick he was gone. I know that he leaves big shoes behind to fill. Thank you David for a great friendship and lots of great memories.*

*Frank Addington, jr.
San Antonio, TX*

frank Addington - May 30, 2023 at 06:48 PM