



William "Fred" Buff Sr.

January 28, 2020

William "Fred" Frederick Buff Sr, 88, of Elmer, NJ passed away on January 28, 2020 surrounded by his family.

Born in Maggie Valley, NC to the late Rufus A. & Estella (Trantham), Fred made his way to Elmer in 1950, following his service in the army during the Korean War, to take a job at Richman's Ice Cream with his brothers and brother-in-law.

Upon arriving in New Jersey, Fred was introduced to the congregation at the Deerfield United Methodist Church by his sister and Sunday School teacher, "Sis," where he remained a devote member for over 70 years. Here, he met his future wife, Becky, and they were married there on June 24, 1959.

Soon after marriage, Fred and Becky started their own business in 1960.

Buff's Appliance Service on Route 40 in Elmer remained open until his "retirement" in 2016. In addition to the great professional Fred was, he was also always looking for ways to give back to the community. He was a proud founding member and Treasurer of the Elmer Little League and remained a team sponsor for over 50 years.

Perhaps Fred's biggest passion was bluegrass music. Like his father, Fred loved playing the banjo. He cherished his Cox-Fairchild 5-string with gold plating that was personally signed to him by his dear friend and bluegrass legend, Raymond Fairchild.

Like many of his favorite bluegrass musicians, Fred was a dedicated Master Mason and member of the Elmer Lodge No. 160, where he served as

Worshipful Master in 1985. Additionally, Fred was a full Member of the Scottish Rite, achieving the 32nd Degree. Along with the good works that Fred was able to achieve through these organizations, his proudest accomplishment was raising all three of his sons to the Degree of Master Mason.

In addition to his parents, Fred was preceded in death by his brothers, Arthur "Art", Ernest "Boots", Luther "Cubby", Paul Sr, Rufus Jr "Junie", and Sam; his sister, Thelma "Sis" (Mehaffey); nephew Alan Mehaffey, and great nephew, Timothy Crim. Fred is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Rebecca (Tice), and their three sons, William F. Jr "Freddy" (Connie, wife), Robert (Lynn, spouse), and Ernest (Dianna, wife). In addition to his immediate family, Fred is also survived by his brother, Way "Pee-Wee", sister, Marjorie "Cookie" (Ludlow); four grandchildren Lauren Brunner (Louis, husband), Tyler (Rachel, partner), William F III "JB", and Travis; two great-grandchildren, Sophia and Madison, numerous nieces and nephews, including his niece, Donna Lynn (Crim), who he considered a "bonus daughter", and his beloved side-kick, Coco.

Services will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at Adam's Funeral Home, 111 South Main Street Elmer, NJ 08318. The family will receive visitors from 10am until 11am. Services to immediately follow visitation. Graveside burial will be held at Deerfield United Methodist Church, Route 77 Deerfield Township, NJ 08313. A luncheon to celebrate Fred's life will be held at the church fellowship hall immediately following.

Fred truly believed in the work being done at the Shriner's Children's Hospital. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for contributions to be made in his name.

Cemetery Details

Deerfield UMC Cemetery

State Highway 77
Deerfield, NJ 08313

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home - South Jersey Cremation Services (Elmer)
111 South Main Street
Elmer, NJ 08318
(856) 358-3737

Service

FEB 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home - South Jersey Cremation Services (Elmer)
111 South Main Street
Elmer, NJ 08318
(856) 358-3737

Tribute Wall

JG

“ *Elmer Little League would like to send their condolences to the family of Fred Buff and thank Fred for his dedicated support. Buff Appliance Service supported the league by sponsoring a team for over 50 years.*

Jim Garrison - February 03, 2020 at 10:49 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Fred" Buff Sr..*



January 30, 2020 at 11:17 PM

OS

“ *My condolences to the Family. Enjoyed managing as assistant with Yams. Being involved with the Elmer Little League and Buff's Appliance Team. Loved Fred's stories and that he was from one of my favorite places, Maggie Valley.*

Omar Sickler - January 30, 2020 at 03:16 PM

CF

“ *We made our home in Elmer in the 1980's and came to know Fred through his iconic appliance store and through his devotion to and tireless work on behalf of F&AM Lodge #160. Fred was a gentleman and a great friend and mentor. He, Becky & the rest of the Buff family are in our thoughts and prayers. Chris & Betsy Forth*

Christopher Forth - January 30, 2020 at 03:11 PM

DS

“ When I worked for Larchmont Farms I was always going to the Buffs Appliance's either for parts or used refurbished refrigerators. Mr Buff and his wife were the most helpful kind and understanding people I have ever met. Mr. Buff was always available to explain how things worked whenever I needed help, not to mention a great person to talk with. David Smith

David Smith - January 30, 2020 at 11:51 AM

LM

“ When I first came up here I felt so much of an outsider, some people were not to pleasant to me. One day I had to call Mr. Buff something broke and I told my husband I want him around since he had known him for such a long time. Well, I shouldn't of worried from the time he came through the door it was as if I had known him for years. He told me so many stories that day and whenever he came to fix something. I looked forward to his coming. He will be surely missed, especially form me. Okay, angels up in heaven I hope you are ready cause you got a special person up there with you today.

Linda Mills - January 29, 2020 at 03:48 PM

LO

“ RIP Uncle Fred. I'm sure you're in heaven now 'making music' with Grandfather and Daddy. Play on. 😭



Lynette ODonnell - January 28, 2020 at 11:59 PM

LO

“ *RIP Uncle Fred. 😞. I'm sure you're in heaven now 'making music' with Grandfather and Daddy*



Lynette ODonnell - January 28, 2020 at 11:41 PM

TY

“ *1 file added to the album Poppop*



Tyler - January 28, 2020 at 09:10 PM

TB

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Tyler Buff - January 28, 2020 at 08:58 PM

ST

“ *When I was young boy I loved listening to Uncle Fred and his brothers playing their banjos. Uncle Fred was an Awesome Uncle and one of the kindest men in the world. He will be missed. Much love Bill and Shelly Tice*

Shelly Tice - January 28, 2020 at 08:38 PM