



## Fred Tate Jr.

July 19, 1949 - December 6, 2019

Fred Tate Jr., 70, of Wilbur, passed from this life while surrounded by his loving family at St. Francis Hospital in Indianapolis, on December 6, 2019. He was born in London, Kentucky on July 19, 1949 to the late Joseph Fred and Lucy (Fields) Tate.

Raised in the hills and hollers of Kentucky, Fred's family migrated north when he was 18 years old and settled in Bellville, Indiana. He spent the next several years sowing his wild oats, before meeting the love of his life, Malea in 1977. The pair dated for a year and were joyously joined in matrimony on July 1, 1978. A hard worker, Fred was employed at Raymond Duke Construction for 32 years. He then worked on the docks of Maplehurst until the early 90's.

A dedicated father, Fred strived to be an excellent provider for his family, putting their wants and needs before his own. Even though he didn't enjoy fishing, he spent quality time with his children fishing. A favorite family time was building campfires and roasting marshmallows. His favorite tv show was Andy Griffith, and his favorite type of movies were Westerns.

A social butterfly, Fred was known as the Mayor of Wilbur. He could be found on any given day hanging out at the Wilbur Corner Store, being a proud member of the Liar's Club, formerly known as the Official Wilbur Loafers. A loving and generous man, he was a jokester who never met a stranger; he

thoroughly enjoyed bringing love, laughter and conversation to all. A truly iconic man, Fred left not only a hole in the hearts of his family, but also left a void in the daily routines of the Corner Store. He will be deeply missed.

Fred leaves behind his wife of 41 years, Malea (Lambert) Tate; children, Gary Tate of Wilbur, Tabitha Gibson (Mike) of Wilbur; mother in law, Patricia Lambert of Martinsville; brother in law, Patrick Lambert of Martinsville; sister in law, Teresa Sighting of Wilbur; siblings, James Tate (wife, Della) of Lawrence, John Tate (wife, Pam) of Franklin and Bessie Coffey (husband, Buddy) of Reelsville; grandchildren, Tommy Gibson (Annie) of Mooresville, Trey Gibson (Lexy) of Plainfield, Trevor Gibson of Plainfield and Talea Gibson of Wilbur; great grandchild, Lyla; several nieces and nephews; and beloved fur babies, Daisy, Gus, Angel, Midnight and Baby Girl.

A Celebration of Life Service will begin at 1pm, on Friday, December 13, 2019, in Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia, with visitation held from 11am until 1pm. Burial will follow at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Hall. In lieu of flowers, Fred's family is seeking assistance with his final expenses. Memorial contributions may be made to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel, 585 E. Main St., Monrovia, IN 46157. Online donations can be made by going to [https://www.facebook.com/donate/758553181286696/?fundraiser\\_source=external\\_url](https://www.facebook.com/donate/758553181286696/?fundraiser_source=external_url), and condolences may be shared with the family on Fred's tribute wall at [www.lightmemorial.com](http://www.lightmemorial.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Hall

5409 W. Hurt Road  
Monrovia, IN 46157

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Friends & Family

DEC 13. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel  
585 East Main Street  
Monrovia, IN 46157  
(317) 996-2101  
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

## Celebration of Life Service

DEC 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel  
585 East Main Street  
Monrovia, IN 46157  
(317) 996-2101  
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

# Tribute Wall

CF

“ To my precious cousins, Jim, John and Bessie, I am so sorry to hear about Junior. We all lost our loved ones together on that day. Sending you all my love and prayers and may God comfort you all at this time. Love you all.

*Cheryl Ann Fields Adams*

Cheryl Ann Fields - December 14, 2019 at 07:54 AM

AB

“ Malea I am so sorry to hear that your husband passed away. My heart hurts for you. I will keep you in my prayers. - Amber Miller Bryson (Walmart)



Amber Miller Bryson - December 14, 2019 at 01:28 AM



“ 73 files added to the album Life Tributes



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - December 12, 2019 at 01:31 PM

MR

“ I remember riding my bicycle to the corner store every day and hanging out with you , the other Fred and all the other geezers. Sitting on the liars bench really made me feel like I was somebody when I was around you all. Man if I would have only listened to you more..... Your jokes your great personality is what I think about when I think of you and I hope that when it's my time to go I make a impact on someone's life as you have to many people. I have a lot of fond memories with you old man. You'll be forever missed. Fly high FRED. We'll meet again

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**Malcolm Robey** - December 11, 2019 at 05:30 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Fred Tate Jr..



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December 10, 2019 at 08:51 PM

RT

“ Your all in our thoughts and prayers.



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**Roy & Stacy Thompson** - December 10, 2019 at 04:25 PM

GH

“ *Georgia Hovious lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.*



Georgia Hovious - December 10, 2019 at 07:59 AM

SS

“ *Stacey Ellis Smith lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.*



Stacey Ellis Smith - December 09, 2019 at 06:04 PM

PK

“ *Peggy Kitchens lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.*



Peggy Kitchens - December 09, 2019 at 11:48 AM

JS

“ *My family is truly heart broken.*



Julie Skeen - December 09, 2019 at 07:49 AM

SC

“ I’m completely heartbroken over this news. Fred was so loved up at the Wilbur Corner Shop. He always made mine or my husbands trip to the store pleasurable. He will be truly missed. Praying for you all. God bless!



Shawn Smith Clemons - December 08, 2019 at 09:32 PM

JS

“ Jacey Soots lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.



jacey soots - December 08, 2019 at 09:28 PM

JM

“ Jodi (Kindle) Maxwell lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.



Jodi (Kindle) Maxwell - December 08, 2019 at 08:43 PM

JM

“ Fred was like another uncle to me-he hung out with my uncle Jim, uncle Rick and uncle Ben. Sure will miss not seeing him. Prayers for all his friends and family he will certainly be missed

Jodi (Kindle) Maxwell - December 08, 2019 at 08:42 PM

JK

“ This news breaks my heart. I wondered why we hadn't seen him at the Wilbur Store in a while. 😞 My family will miss him so much. My girls thought of him like another papaw. He was always giving us hugs, making us laugh, teasing the kids, telling jokes with my boys, and yelling “howdy, teacher” every time he saw my husband. Rest Easy Fred, you'll never be forgotten! ❤️

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**Jessica Katterhenry** - December 08, 2019 at 07:58 PM

PA

*I will miss seeing him at the Wilbur store. Although I did not know him we always said hello and he knew me as “the girl of many cars”. He was always fun. My prayers are with you all.*

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**Pam** - December 11, 2019 at 03:08 PM

CS

“ Christina Smith lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.



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**christina smith** - December 08, 2019 at 07:24 PM

TB

“ Tia And Dima Beach lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.



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**Tia And Dima Beach** - December 08, 2019 at 05:45 PM

JR

“ Jackie Royal lit a candle in memory of Fred Tate Jr.



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**Jackie Royal** - December 08, 2019 at 05:11 PM

JR

*He will be Greatly missed! Love the times we had & conversations on the "Liars Bench" at the Corner Shop!* 🥹❤️🙏

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**Jackie Royal** - December 08, 2019 at 05:13 PM