

## Wilbur G. Benson

July 25, 1928 - August 5, 2015

Wilbur G. Benson, 87, of Mooresville, a lifelong volunteer firefighter and a founder of the Monroe Township Fire Department (Station 2 on Gasburg Road), passed from this life on Wednesday, August 5, 2015, in the comfort of his home. He was born on July 25, 1928, in Indianapolis, to the late Tom and Tressa "Dee" (Allee) Benson.

Wilbur was raised in West Newton and graduated from Decatur High School in 1947. He actively served in the United States Air Force, specializing in pilot assistance with navigating and controlling communications during the Korean and Vietnam War. He married the love of his life, Shirley Nauert on June 7, 1956. Wilbur worked at General Motors for 23 years; retiring in 1991. After retirement, he attended classes at IUPUI, where he became a certified electrician.

He was a lifelong member of IVFA and selflessly provided rescue services at Monroe Township Fire Department, established in 1975, on Gasburg Road, and additionally worked for Life Star & Life Line in Brown Township. He enjoyed reading and was the jack-of-all trades that liked to tinker in the garage and could rebuild almost anything. The joys in Wilbur's life was found at home, spending time with family, watching the grandkids grow up next door and traveling with Shirley.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Sandy Benson in 1979. Survivors include his loving wife, of nearly 60 years, Shirley M. (Nauert) Benson of Mooresville; adored daughter, Vickie Bryant (husband, Bill) of Mooresville; grandchildren, Megan Zeronik (husband, Brian) of Plainfield, Kelli Young (husband, Cameron) of Monrovia; Traci and Amber Bryant both of Mooresville; great grandchildren, Nolan, Anna, Lillian and Asher; brother-in-law, Dan Nauert of Mooresville.

A Celebration of Life Service will begin at 11am, on Saturday, August 8, 2015, at Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Friday, August 7, 2015, from 4 to 8pm, at 7pm, the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association will conduct a memorial service. Wilbur will be carried on an antique fire engine in a firefighter's procession. Burial will be held at West Newton Cemetery, with military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Monroe Fire Dept. House Fund, 450 N. Chestnut Street, Monrovia. To sign the online guest registry, share a favorite memory, or light a candle in Wilbur's memory visit [www.lightmemorial.com](http://www.lightmemorial.com).

# Cemetery Details

## West Newton Cemetery

6600 Milton Street  
Camby, IN 46113

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Service

AUG 7. 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Celebration of Life

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AUG 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

TP

“ *Wilbur was a kind and giving man. I will always be grateful to Wilbur; he was a first responder and first on the scene many years ago on Christmas Eve when my dad had his heart attack. I am thankful for his many years of service to the community. I was sad that I was out of town during the memorial and service. My thoughts and prayers are with Shirley, Vicki and the family. Rest in peace Wilbur Benson.* ”



Tina Spencer Pierce - August 10, 2015 at 10:10 PM

SW

“ *Susie Wysong lit a candle in memory of Wilbur G. Benson* ”



susie wysong - August 10, 2015 at 12:08 PM

SW

*Enjoyed the days I got to visit with Wilbur and Sis. Prayers for all*

susie wysong - August 10, 2015 at 12:09 PM

BB

“ *Please know that PDS Connect is sending prayers and thoughts. We will also make a contribution to the Monroe Fire Dept.* ”



Brittani Bentley - August 10, 2015 at 09:16 AM

KA

“ So sorry we miss Wilbur's celebration of life service. We can remember the day you both moved in next door so many year ago. All of the days and nights that we spent together doing all the fun things with both of you. Wilbur was always a good friend you could count on . He worked hard to make a good life for you and the girls He will be missed..

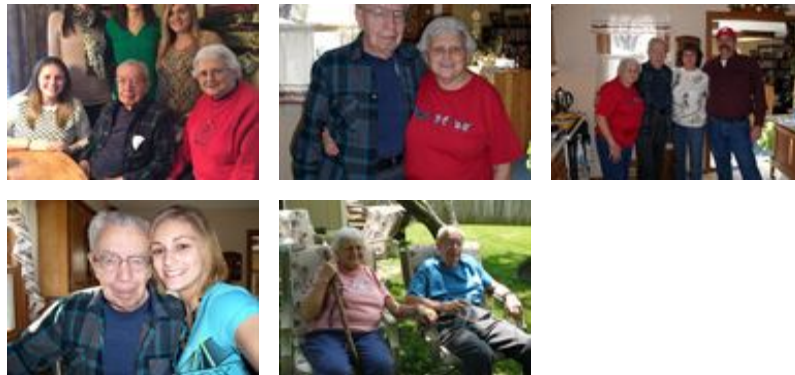
*Alfaretta,Kay,Penny and Bill Rairden*

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**Kay Atwell** - August 08, 2015 at 01:21 PM



“ 7 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel** - August 08, 2015 at 12:31 AM



“ 90 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel** - August 07, 2015 at 11:30 AM

BP

“ *Betty Pritchard lit a candle in memory of Wilbur G. Benson*



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**betty pritchard** - August 06, 2015 at 11:31 PM

BP

“ Wilbur Benson was a very special and unique person. Those times we did speak, it was a pleasure sharing which new book one was reading and he seemed to enjoy giving me some great gardening tips. His philosophy was something I truly enjoyed. But above all, it was his love of family and community that was most impressive. My husband and I always enjoyed being in the company of Wilbur Benson, the "man of few words"! The cliche` is that things won't be the same without him around...

*How could they possibly?*

*Our deepest sympathy to Shirley, Vickie, Bill, Megan, Kelly, Traci, Amber, and their little ones along with Dan and children. ?*

*Ken and Betty Pritchard*

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**betty pritchard** - August 06, 2015 at 11:27 PM

BB

“ Bill Bryant lit a candle in memory of Wilbur G. Benson



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**Bill Bryant** - August 06, 2015 at 04:48 PM

JD

“ He was a great man always kind loved his family. Was a great Firefighter . We will miss you our friend but know you are ranking the street of gold with your other child. you will be missed.

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**Jesse & Cynthia Dowell** - August 06, 2015 at 11:10 AM

JD

“ *Jesse & Cynthia Dowell lit a candle in memory of Wilbur G. Benson*



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**Jesse & Cynthia Dowell** - August 06, 2015 at 11:02 AM

MA

“ *Uncle Wilbur always called me "Sarah"when I was growing up because he said my hair was too long and I needed to get a haircut! He was the smartest man I have ever known. Rest in peace.*

*Mark Arthur, St Petersburg, Florida*

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**Mark Arthur** - August 06, 2015 at 09:36 AM



“ *Wilbur was a great friend and family man. Remember him at cookout at Dan"s house. Thoughts and prayers for the family. Mike & Twylia White*

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**Twylia White** - August 06, 2015 at 07:53 AM

DA

“ *Too many, a nieghbor,and friend.An honor to have known him ! Prayers to the family.Gene / Darlene Atkinson*

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**Darlene atkinson** - August 06, 2015 at 07:18 AM

RG

“ *Reta Gibbs lit a candle in memory of Wilbur G. Benson*



Reta Gibbs - August 06, 2015 at 06:47 AM

 Kathy Morrow-Schott

*Rest in peace Wilbur you were loved and respected by so many many people.....may God comfort your family.....*

Kathy Morrow-Schott - August 06, 2015 at 11:34 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wilbur G. Benson.*



August 06, 2015 at 12:13 AM

 Diane Gorsline

“ *When I was growing up, I remember Wilbur as always being somewhat quiet, but as sort of a "renaissance man". He had the pit in the garage to work on cars, he worked long hours at day jobs but also had part time jobs, and knew so much about artists, music, and many other things. I am sure he will be greatly missed by all of his family, especially Shirley and Vickie. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*



Diane Gorsline - August 05, 2015 at 11:29 PM

LD

“ Remembering my 6 yr old self waltzing over to my neighbors house in my bathing suit just so they'd invite me over to swim! Hands down the best people to live next door to as a young kid. You will be forever in our hearts Wilbur 💕💕

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**Lisa Hodges Dean** - August 05, 2015 at 11:28 PM