



## Garreth Benton Blackwell

June 12, 1938 - December 9, 2016

Garreth Benton Blackwell passed away Friday, December 9, 2016 at his home in Ellettsville surrounded by his family.

Born in Needmore, IN on June 12, 1938 he was the son of Elmer Oren and Barbara Alice (Gwin) Blackwell. Garreth attended elementary schools in Needmore, Oolitic, and Scottsburg. Upon the death of his mother in 1948 he moved to the home of aunt and uncle, Clarence and Freeda Blackwell Stewart. Graduating from Ellettsville High School in 1956 he then attended Wichita University in Kansas where he was employed by the Boeing Airplane Company.

He met his wife Ann while attending the Methodist Church in Ellettsville where they were baptized together in 1949 and attended Methodist Youth Fellowship together. They were married at the church on June 30, 1957 and are still active members. Garreth and Ann began their married life in Wichita, Kansas and then returned to Ellettsville in 1958 where Garreth worked at the Gifford Farm Store. After purchasing his own heavy equipment, he worked for Curry Construction, Sid Cowden Construction, May Development and several building contractors.

Garreth began the Blackwell Construction and Excavating Company in 1959 helping the town with their new sewer system development and building

several homes in the area. In 1964 they built their home in Westbrook Downs subdivision which he helped to develop. This is where they lovingly raised their 3 daughters. In 1984 they built another home on the Westside of Ellettsville where they enjoyed many happy times, including sitting on their front porch visiting with friends, family, and great grandkids.

Garreth enjoyed vacationing with his family, collecting miniature Oliver tractors and heavy equipment models. He also enjoyed woodworking projects in his workshop. He served as an active Boy Scout leader at the Ellettsville First United Methodist Church.

Garreth's family would like to thank the staff at IU Health-Bloomington Hospice for the loving care given to Garreth and his family.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Ann Gifford Blackwell; daughters, Alice (Rick) Robertson, Linda Blackwell, and Angie (Andy) Fluke; grandchildren, Keely Robertson Cunningham, Douglas "Shane" (Valerie) Owens, Nic (Jamie) Robertson, Benton "Ben" (Dava) Fluke, Jeremy "Heath" Owens, Kristen Fluke (Fiancé Matt Richards), Kaitlin "Katy" Owens (Brandon) Coffey, and Amber Ragle (Brandon) Wright; great-grandchildren, Jakob Cunningham, Jonathan "JJ" Smith, Aiden Hutslar, Christina Owens and Kinley Wright; sister-in-law, Wilodene Gifford Chaffin; brothers, Wallace (Sue) Stewart and Paul (Barbara) Stewart; and several nieces and nephews that are very fond of him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Morris Eugene Blackwell; sister, Barbara Joan Blackwell Deckard; infant son, Gary Joe Blackwell; and aunt and uncle, Clarence and Freeda Stewart.

Funeral services will be held at the Ellettsville First United Methodist Church on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. with Dr. Art Collins officiating. Burial will follow at Presbyterian Cemetery. Visitation will be at Chandler Funeral Home in Ellettsville on Sunday from 2:00 to 6:00 and again one hour

prior the services.

The family requests contributions to the Ellettsville First United Methodist Church or to the Presbyterian Cemetery in care of the funeral home.

# Cemetery Details

## Presbyterian Cemetery

1233 West Temperance Street  
Ellettsville, IN 47429

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 11. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Chandler Funeral Homes - Ellettsville Chapel  
203 E. Temperance Street  
Ellettsville, IN 47429  
(812) 876-6075  
chandlerfh@bluemarble.net  
<https://www.chandlerfh.com>

## Service

DEC 12. 1:00 PM (ET)

Ellettsville First United Methodist Church  
803 West Temperance St.  
Ellettsville, IN 47429

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ Great man worked with him at Lowe's he always had a smile on his face and always made us all smile as well grateful missed



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**Jessica Mays** - June 15, 2017 at 06:26 AM

CB

“ Just reading this news on Facebook tonight, Monday the 12th. We have nothing but fond memories of Garreth - his great smile - and love for his family. Please be assured of our prayers for all of you - for peace and comfort. Remember all the special times shared...GOD BLESS....Byron and Carol

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**Carol and Byron Bruns** - December 12, 2016 at 06:28 PM

BL

“ Shane and Valerie and family,  
My heart is with you. I'm sorry for your loss. It was my pleasure to have meet him. He was an awesome person. If you need anything I'm here for you. Love you



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**Bobbie Jo Long** - December 12, 2016 at 02:13 AM

JR

“ Gareth was a very wonderful man always had a smile. He was also one who loved his beautiful wife and family. The Heaven has opened its Gates up for this wonderful man. God bless you Ann and family with deepest condolences. Brant and Jackie Robinson and family.

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**Jackie Robinson** - December 11, 2016 at 11:28 PM

KW

“ Our memories go back to high school, weddings, births, Westbrook Downs etc. and forever. Your and your family are in our prayers.  
*Leon and Liz Walbring*

Ken Walbring - December 11, 2016 at 11:47 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of  
*Garreth Benton Blackwell.*



December 11, 2016 at 11:44 AM

JB

“ Our condolences on your loss. What a blessing he was to so many.  
*His was a life well lived. He had such a great smile, strong work ethic and a love for family that truly was admirable. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all . Barba and Joe Baer and family*

Joe and Barba Baer - December 10, 2016 at 12:43 PM

JB

“ Joe And Barba Baer lit a candle in memory of  
*Garreth Benton Blackwell*



Joe and Barba Baer - December 10, 2016 at 12:34 PM

SK

“ Sending hugs to the family. What good memories we have. Ellettsville is losing a lot of angels.

*Sue Ellen Kelley*

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**sue ellen kelley** - December 10, 2016 at 12:13 PM

SK

“ So sorry Ann for your loss. Prayers and hugs. Shelby

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**Shelby kiser** - December 10, 2016 at 08:49 AM

JL

“ Ann,  
Please accept our deepest condolences. Ellettsville is slowly losing its icons.

*Thinking of you and family.*

*John and Judy Knoebel Litten, New Port Richey, Fl.*

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**John & Judy Knoebel Litten** - December 10, 2016 at 06:39 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Garreth Benton Blackwell.



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December 09, 2016 at 07:13 PM

BK

“ Ann, Extending sympathy to you and your family, we are sorry for your loss. Jim and Bonnie Kight, Williamsport, IN

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**Bonnie and Jim Kight** - December 09, 2016 at 04:41 PM