



## Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr.

November 18, 1938 - December 8, 2019

Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett, Sr. 81, of 372 Autumn Lane Danville, departed this life on Sunday, December 8, 2019 at his residence following a valiant battle with Parkinson's Disease, a long journey since 2011.

Born November 18, 1938, he was the son of the late Asa D. Burnett and Carolyn Hanks Burnett. He grew up in the Westover Hills community. He graduated from Brosville High School, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the Medical College of Virginia, where he earned his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree. He practiced dentistry for 41 years, and he took pride in providing excellent care for his patients. He was very appreciative of his patients, and also of his office staff.

Dr. Burnett is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joyce Bailey Burnett, and three children: Sherri Burnett Derflinger and husband Rev. Michael Derflinger of Gloucester Point, Douglas D. Burnett, Jr. and wife Kim Turner Burnett of Midlothian, and Susan Nell Burnett of Lynchburg. Also surviving are five grandchildren: James M. Derflinger, II Jeremy B. Derflinger, Julia S. Derflinger, Asa Ryan Burnett, and Eric A. Burnett. Other survivors include two sisters: Carolyn Burnett Herndon and husband Raymond W. Herndon of Brosville, and Bonnie Burnett Law and husband, Kermit L. Law of Kernersville, NC; two nieces, three nephews, four great nieces, three great nephews, and his beloved dog, Sophie.

In addition to his parents, Dr. Burnett was pre-deceased by his brother, David M. Burnett, his sister-in-law Sue A. Burnett, and a great niece, Caroline A. Lewis.

He served as a member of the Virginia National Guard from 1955-1963 and earned an honorable discharge.

Dr. Burnett held various jobs while he was working his way through school. He taught biology and chemistry at Spring Garden High School, and taught a summer session at George Washington High School. He worked in Dan River Mills between semesters, worked in a Danville shoe store, measured tobacco acreage during summers, and worked as a nurse in a clinic at MCV.

Active in dental professional organizations, he held membership in Rockingham County, Virginia Dental Society for two years, the Danville-Pittsylvania County Dental Society, the Virginia Dental Association, and the American dental association. He served as president for the local association and president of Component V of the state association. On the state level, he was a liaison dentist, a member of the Professional and Ethics Committee, and was a Fellow of the Virginia Dental Association. In 1991 he became a Fellow of the Pierie Fauchard Academy, an international honor society.

Locally, he served on the Committee for the Dental Hygiene School Proposal and Implementation at Danville Community College. Dr. Burnett was involved in various civic activities. Some of those were member of the board of directors for Sutherlin Academy, a boy scout leader, an assistant coach for Danville Little League, a member of the Special Projects Committee for the Band Boosters Club at Tunstall High School, and chairman of the Westover Hills Community Center Board.

He served on the Pittsylvania County School Board from 1971-1979, specifically as vice-chairman, member of the Superintendent Selection

Committee, member, Vocational School Planning and Architectural Committee, the Land Acquisition Committee, the Committee for Budgeting and Implementing the county gifted program, was a representative to the National School Board Association, and was president of the Southern Region of the Virginia School Board Association.

Being interested in education, he also served on the Danville City School System Advisory Committee for the Vocational School Health Aid Department.

As a member of Fairview United Methodist Church, Dr. Burnett served in many capacities. He taught an adult Sunday school class, was President of the Friendship Class, and worked on numerous committees. He was also chairman of the Administrative Board, chairman of the Staff--Parish Relations Committee, and chairman of the Council on Ministries. He particularly enjoyed being a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

A hobby that he loved was playing his guitar and supporting various senior citizen groups by helping to provide country and western musical entertainment. His idols were Marty Robbins and Gene Autry.

Somehow, he still had time to spend with his family by supporting their interests and being present for all holidays, special occasions, and vacations. He spent quality time with his children, grandchildren, and extended family. After retirement he and his wife were able to make two cross-county trips and a thirty-day trip to Alaska.

Heartfelt thanks are extended to so many for their prayers and support throughout this journey: our church family, especially the Friendship class, Dean's Care Service, who provided sitters Eboni Lampkins, Dean Pannell, Tamara Pannell, Sharonda Swanson, Lavonna Wade, and Brandi Waters.

Also, much appreciation is extended to Mountain Valley Hospice and Home Nursing, neighbors in Fox Hollow, especially those on Autumn Lane, and extended family, particularly Dan Bailey, who helped us for the duration.

While flowers or any remembrances re appreciated, the family respectfully suggests that memorials may be directed to The Friendship Class, Fairview United Methodist Church, 1013 Westover Drive, Danville, VA 24541 or Mountain Valley Hospice and Home Nursing, 730 East Church Street, Suite 13, Martinsville, VA 24112.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, December 13, 2019 at 2:00 PM at Fairview United Methodist Church conducted by the Rev. Jennifer Coffey and the Rev. Michael Derflinger. Interment will follow in Danville Memorial Gardens.

The family will receive friends on Thursday evening from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Church and at the residence at other times.

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel is serving the Burnett family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 12. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fairview United Methodist Church  
1013 Westover Drive  
VA 24541

## Funeral Service

DEC 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Fairview United Methodist Church  
1013 Westover Drive  
VA 24541

## Burial

DEC 13 (ET)

Danville Memorial Gardens  
510 Church Avenue  
Danville, VA

# Tribute Wall

PH

“Joyce, our deepest sympathies to you and your family. While Duane is healed and overflowing with awe in His Savior's presence, we know you miss him terribly. We are praying for your peace and comfort. “The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit”. Love, Philip and Wendy Turner

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**Philip** - December 13, 2019 at 11:18 AM

RM

“To Joyce and all the family:  
May God bless and comfort each of you in this difficult time and in the days to come, as you draw strength from one another, your fond memories of Duane, and our lord and savior Jesus Christ. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Raleigh & Elaine Montgomery



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**Raleigh Montgomery** - December 12, 2019 at 07:31 PM

KD

“Dr Burnett was my dentist as a child and I always remember him singing ol my darling. We grew up with his children at Fairview. My parents were members of Friendship class too. My children were also his patients until he retired. My prayers and thoughts are with you all. Lots of love from Kim Doss and family



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**Kim Doss** - December 12, 2019 at 03:16 PM

GG

“ *To the Entire Family:*

*I wish to convey my sincere sympathy in the loss of your Dear Family Member.*

*Duane was a wonderful person, whom I considered a friend over many years!*

*My thoughts and prayers shall be with all of you during this difficult time.*



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**Gerald Gibson** - December 12, 2019 at 03:04 PM

TC

“ *To the family of Dr. Burnett,  
My Prayers are with you all during this time. Dr. Burnett was my dentist and he was the greatest. He will be missed by many..*

*Tammy Custer and Family*

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**Tammy Custer** - December 12, 2019 at 10:52 AM

TC

“ *Tammy Custer sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr.*



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**Tammy Custer** - December 12, 2019 at 10:50 AM

YM

“ Yvonne McKinney lit a candle in memory of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr.



Yvonne McKinney - December 11, 2019 at 09:44 PM

JM

“ I began seeing Dr. Burnett when I was 19 years old. He was my dentist until his retirement. A fine man and a caring man. He will be missed.

Jennifer Moorefield - December 11, 2019 at 09:30 PM

RJ

“ Dr Burnett was my dentist and always enjoyed my visits with him. Always one to put you at ease and always wanting to know how life was treating you. Mrs. Burnett, Sherri, Douglas, Susan and family sorry to hear about the loss of your husband , daddy, and granddaddy. I pray that God comfort the family during this difficult time . Know my thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.  
Roy Campbell, Jr.

Roy Campbell, Jr. - December 11, 2019 at 08:42 PM

JP

“ Judy Pace lit a candle in memory of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr.



Judy Pace - December 11, 2019 at 08:33 PM

JP

*Deepest sympathy to Joyce and the family of Duane. I know he will be sadly missed.*

**Judy Pace** - December 11, 2019 at 08:35 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr..*



December 11, 2019 at 07:30 PM

BP

“ *Bernita W. Powell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr.*



**Bernita w. Powell** - December 11, 2019 at 03:16 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr..*



December 11, 2019 at 08:43 AM

DH

“ So sorry to hear about the loss of your husband , daddy, and granddaddy Susan and your family may God comfort the family during this difficult time . Know my thoughts and prayers are with y'all may God bless each of y'all in weeks and months to come



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**Debra Hankins** - December 10, 2019 at 08:34 PM

JM

“ Dr. Burnett was my dentist when I lived in Danville. He gave me my first crown and I still wear it to this day and I am just a few years younger than Dr. Burnett. He was a wonderful dentist and so caring and kind. My dearest condolences to his precious family. I'm sure he will be missed.

*Judy Martin  
Salisbury, NC*

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**Judy Martin** - December 10, 2019 at 06:08 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr..



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December 10, 2019 at 04:57 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr..*



December 10, 2019 at 04:54 PM



“ *Dian Newton purchased the Sympathy Chocolates for the family of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr..*



**Dian Newton** - December 10, 2019 at 11:51 AM



“ *Dr. Burnett was my dentist since I was 16 years old until he retired,he was a great man always smiling and treating me like I was a friend. He was a man of God and wasn't too proud to show it. I will be praying for his family during this time. Thank God for a sweet man to all. Love and will miss you for the good times you shared with all your patients . Till we meet again RIP.*

**Dian Newton** - December 10, 2019 at 11:42 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Douglas Duane Burnett Sr..*



December 10, 2019 at 11:14 AM

BB

“ *What an awesome man! I learned about this today when i went in for my appointment with Dr Johnson. Dr Burnett was quite a character. You could tell he loved his job but I think it was being close to his patients was the reason. He became part of your family as I'm sure a lot of people would say. He was your friend too. I remember one New Years day my tooth was killing me and he told me to meet him at the office. Most people on News Years day may be too glued to the tv and other things to do that. When I left there my tooth wasn't hurting anymore. I could go on and on. Every time we met or I went in for an appointment we would have the best time joking (sometime at Dr Johnson's expense) and laughing that sometimes the other people working in the office would say we were having to much fun. LoL! There will never be another Dr Burnett! We will miss you my good friend but those memories will go on forever!*

*Bucky and Anita Buckner*

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**Bucky Buckner** - December 10, 2019 at 12:20 AM