



Dwight D. Edwards

October 10, 1945 - September 22, 2020

Dwight D. Edwards was born in Philadelphia, PA. He was the only child born of the union of the late William Edwards Jr. and the late Dorothy Willoughby on October 10, 1945. Although he is the only child of their union, Dwight was blessed with several siblings serving well in his role as big brother. In his youth he was raised by William Edwards Jr. and Isabel Edwards. He attended schools in the Philadelphia School District including Roberts Vaux Junior High School and Thomas Edison High School. Through his own admission, he got bored and distracted and dropped out of Edison short of graduation and joined the Army. From 1963 to 1966, Dwight honorably served in the United States Army and was a combat veteran of the Vietnam War.

He enlisted in the Army on June 28, 1963, and was assigned to the 11th Air Assault Division while in the U.S. He completed one tour of duty in South Vietnam from August 1965 to May 1966 with the 1st Cavalry Division, Delta Company 1/12th Cavalry Airborne and was Honorably Discharged from the service in 1968 with the rank of E-4.

Citations received included the Combat Infantry Badge, Parachutist Badge, Air Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, Vietnam Campaign Medal with two stars, Vietnam Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, and the Air Assault Badge.

Dwight was an athlete going back to his youth. He played football and ran track at Edison. After leaving the Army, he played semi-pro football and was a standout in the Philadelphia Rough Touch League. He was awarded the Most Outstanding Athlete in 1975. His playing career lasted until almost his 40's, and he coached in the league after his playing days. His 1984 Phantoms team was the League Runners Up.

He earned his GED in 1964, and after his military service received his High School Diploma in 1968. Dwight received a BA degree in elementary education from Temple University in 1972. Dwight attended Antioch University from 1975 through 1976 and received a Masters' of Education in counseling, after which he attended Lancaster Theological Seminary (1995-2000), receiving a Master of Divinity Degree.

In May of 1969, Dwight married Edwina L. Davis (deceased), and their union produced two sons, Michael and Stephen.

Dwight's broad work history includes: working as a Probation Officer in the Juvenile Division; Director of Safe Streets Inc.; Counselor at Philadelphia Community College; Counselor at Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service Center; Readjustment Counseling Specialist and Team Leader/Director at the Olney Vet Center; Executive Director of Vietnam Veterans Health Initiative Commission of the PA Dept. of Health; School Counselor in the Harrisburg School District and Pastor in the AME Church--Bethel in Mercersburg, Bethel in Marietta, Bethany in Parkesburg and Bethel in Carlisle.

Dwight married Gwen Butler in 1985 with stepchildren, Alexes and Forrest.

In 1998, he married Carolyn Brewington whom he spent twenty years with. Her adult children are Shawn, Pam, Kevin and Kelly, and they cared for Carolyn's niece, Shannel Marrow during her youth; Shannel's children called

Dwight "Uncle Granddad."

In his final days, he was blessed to have the love, care, and support of his fiancée Diane Clarke. She walked supportively and faithfully with him during some of his darkest hours.

Dwight is survived by his mother, Isabel Edwards--she affectionately called Dwight her "Sonny Boy;" his Aunt Iola and Uncle Daniel; his sons, Michael and Stephen; daughters-in-law, Reaona Jones-Edwards and Tracy Hampton; his grandchildren, Jordan, Sydney, Taylor, Cameran and David; brother, William III; and sisters, Denise, Dorene, Daphne, Dawn and Merna. Wonderful memories will also be cherished by his nieces and nephews, Michelle, Michael, Nicole, Amber, Thomas, Tiffany, Theodore, Anthony, Avery, Malik, Elissa, William IV, Tarik; his companion in his latter days and eventual fiancée, Diane Clarke; as well as a whole host of cousins, friends and godchildren.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CLICK ON THE SHARE A MEMORY TAB TO POST VIDEOS, SHARE MEMORIES, CONDOLENCES, REFLECTIONS OR SIMPLY YOUR NAME ALLOWING THE FAMILY TO KNOW YOU ARE THINKING OF THEM.

ON-LINE STREAMING OF SERVICE. CLICK ON THE PHOTOS & VIDEOS TAB OR MEDIA TAB (MOBILE) AND TRIBUTE WEBCAST TO VIEW.

Previous Events

Flower Delivery

OCT 3. 8:30 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Visitation

OCT 3. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Memorial Service

OCT 3. 12:00 PM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Dwight D. Edwards



Wallace Funeral Directors - September 30, 2020 at 08:08 PM

WF

So happy to have had the opportunity to have Dwight as a friend and mentor. He will sorely be missed. My condolences are with the family. The man is gone but his memory will live on forever. I could never forget is laugh and that booming voice!!

*Fellow Veteran
Wakeelah Falls*

Wakeelah Falls - October 03, 2020 at 12:56 PM

SG

Dwight was a giant. He was a super hero who united us all. Life well lived. Thank you Edwards family for sharing Dwight with us. Praying for your strength. God bless you all.

Susan George - October 03, 2020 at 01:37 PM

BW

I will always remember Dwight and Caroline prayers and kindness during my brother Nathniel Human sickness and death. Keeping the family in prayer. Cousin Bernice Walls

Bernice M. Walls - October 03, 2020 at 01:51 PM

ME

Much love to you... thank you

Mike Edwards - October 03, 2020 at 06:23 PM

KC

Rest Well Rev.Dwight D.Edwards, To God Be The Glory...I Pray it is Well with Your Soul. You will Be Missed.Praying for Sis.Carolyn Edwards.

Kay Carelock - October 03, 2020 at 07:18 PM

KD

I was reviewing audio recordings of our WDAS FM Breakfast Show and Dwight Edwards interviewed on both the Justice Hour and Breakfast Show. Vietnam Veterans for Better Legislation - and discussed his work as well his involvement with the PTTFL. It was great to hear his voice - which prompted me to look for his name. Sorry to learn of the family loss. Kevin Dixon (Columbus, Ohio)


Kevin Dixon - January 09, 2022 at 11:28 PM

KD

“ I had the pleasure of interviewing Dwight Edwards through the WDAS FM Breakfast Show. I was recently reminded of him as I am transferring 40+ year audio tapes from that time - and ran across an interview I had with Dwight on the Justice Hour on WDAS AM; but also some clips of his appearance on the WDAS FM Breakfast Show - where we feature some of the hosts on WDAS AM. I would like to share the interview with any family member who may want to listen to the program. Please reach out to dixon.766@osu.edu (Producer and Co-host at WDAS weekend talk 1978-86.

Kevin Dixon - November 03, 2024 at 07:42 PM

ME

 *I will reach out*

Michael Edwards - June 16, 2025 at 02:34 PM

TH

“ Rest easy, my dear friend. It was an honor working with you at the Vet Centers as a volunteer. Thank you for your service and friendship. I'll meet up with you on the other side. You impacted my life, more than you knew.

Trish Hogan - February 08, 2022 at 04:34 PM

DD

“ Dwight never missed an Armed Forces Day or Veterans Day at Graterford SCI, save for illness. I heard him speak and preach at these ceremonies many times. And when we went to Harrisburg to bring a proposed legislation for reexamination of sentences of veterans due to new findings on PTSD, he testified citing his own PTSD manifesting on a highway encounter that could have turned fiery and furious, but for God's grace. He will remain close in our hearts. Dorothea DiGiovanni, volunteer to the Veterans of Graterford, now Phoenix SCI.

Dorothea DiGiovanni - October 18, 2020 at 12:42 AM

ME

On behalf of the family; Thanks for sharing. I thought about him a lot on Veteran's Day and wondered if the folks in Graterford knew of his passing. Peace and Blessings to all

Mike Edwards - November 14, 2020 at 04:44 PM

KM

“ We will always miss our friend and Breakfast Club member Rev. Dwight Edwards. We had breakfast every Tuesday morning at various diners restaurants in the area. RIP Brother Dwight, we will see you again.

Keith Mitchell - October 14, 2020 at 01:48 PM

ME

*Thanks for sharing; much appreciated. If you or any of your Breakfast Club members wanted to share memories with the family, please email them to rememberingdwightdwards@gmail.com
Peace and Blessings!*

Mike Edwards - October 14, 2020 at 09:13 PM

MG

“ *Trying not to cry but he will be missed. Thank you Dwight for being a part of my life and your positive personality.*

Mary Garcia - October 03, 2020 at 03:29 PM

ME

It's ok to cry; but understand he no longer has to endure earthly pains. Have joy for his soul and celebrate in his impact on all of us!

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 02:58 PM

SE

Mary, we appreciate you reaching out. I could not say it better than my brother did.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:50 PM

GW

“ *With love to you and the family, you are in our thoughts and prayers.
Lonnie and Gwen Hampton*



Gwen - October 03, 2020 at 11:55 AM

ME

Much appreciated; Thanks!

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:12 PM

SE

Thanks for the continued love and support mom.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:46 PM

MK

“ *I had a forty year lapse between meeting and serving with Dwight at Fort Benning , and then in Viet Nam until I was reunited with him at a reunion in 2006.It was like those years had never passed he was the ultimate "picker upper friend". He introduced all of us to our celebratory drink (Fireball) and made sure it was accepted by all. About six years ago at a reunion I found out my only Daughter had been diagnosed with a brain tumor. Dwight prayed with me and I felt then that God was with us. I'm glad that I talked to him both before and after his last surgery. There's no doubt in my mind that Dwight is in his place in Heaven, helping to check in the newcomers. Rest in peace Brother, we love you. Mike and Joyce Van Kirk*

Mke Van Kirk - October 03, 2020 at 10:54 AM

ME

Thanks for sharing, my Dad was a special guy. I'm glad you had a recent interaction with him!

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:13 PM

SE

Mike, thank you for sharing your special memories of our father.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:42 PM

SG

“ October 1, 2016, Rev. Dwight D. Edwards
*Interdenominational Veterans Committee: LZ Resurrection. Worship
service for Veterans, their families and those who have experienced
the trauma of war.*



Susan George - October 03, 2020 at 10:54 AM

ME

Thanks for sharing!

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:14 PM

SE

Susan, we appreciate you sharing the memory.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:35 PM

CP

“ *My sincere condolences for the family of Dwight D Edwards. May he
Rest In Peace.*

Carl F Pray & Family

Carl Pray - October 03, 2020 at 10:23 AM

ME

Thank You

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:16 PM

SE

Carl, Thank you for supporting me!

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:33 PM

RW

“ *I only knew him casually through VVA-542 and it didn't take long to realize that he had character and a great sense of humor. -ron*

Ron Wike - October 02, 2020 at 04:39 PM

ME

Thanks for sharing

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:15 PM

SE

Ron, thank you for sharing.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:31 PM

GN

“ *I will always remember Dwight's gentle upbeat manner, and regret that I was able to be with him only rarely in recent years. He was a blessing.*

Gerry Ney

Gerald Ney - October 02, 2020 at 03:26 PM

ME

Thanks for sharing

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:17 PM

SE

Gerald, we appreciate you sharing your memories with us.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:29 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dwight D. Edwards.*



October 02, 2020 at 08:00 AM



“ *Denise D Wilson purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Dwight D. Edwards.*



Denise D Wilson - October 02, 2020 at 02:13 AM



“ *Mr. Wesley and Iretha Hill purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Dwight D. Edwards.*



Mr. Wesley and Iretha Hill - October 01, 2020 at 06:59 PM



“ *I met Dwight in 1982 in DC at the WALL. Since that time we've stayed in touch and talked from time to time. He was always in great spirits and always had some encouraging word for his friends. Rev. Edwards was a great Man, Friend, and Comrade in the Vet Center program. To the family please accept my heartfelt prayers and condolences, and I pray that God will grant you much comfort during this difficult time. Dwight will surely be missed. God bless the family, and Dwight: Rest In Peace my Brother.*

Rev. Thomas "T J" Johnson, Jr. - October 01, 2020 at 06:35 PM

ME

Thanks, his earthly presence will be TRULY missed, but his impact will never be forgotten! Blessings to you

Mike Edwards - October 01, 2020 at 11:10 PM

SE

Thank you for the prayers and condolences. We appreciate you sharing your memories.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:26 PM

KJ

“ *Rev. Edwards was my Pastoral Care instructor. He was full of knowledge and lots of fun. I was his only student that year. He was so much fun. When he retired from the Pastoral ministry but asked to supply a church (more than once). He quote the movie Scarface saying. “Every time I think I am out of this thing they pull me right back in”. He will be greatly missed.*

Karen Jenkins - October 01, 2020 at 02:09 PM

ME

Thanks for sharing!

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:25 PM

SE

We appreciate you sharing your memories with us.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:20 PM

CA

“ *Calpine purchased the Garden Cross for the family of Dwight D. Edwards.*



Calpine - October 01, 2020 at 01:58 PM

LH

“ *The world has suffered a great loss with Dwight's departure. He gave so much more to the world while he was with us than he ever took from it. He was a giant of man with a giant heart and a perfect combination of confidence, humility, compassion, and competence. I had the great pleasure of hearing him speak before the PA State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America and of being with him at some of the veterans events at Graterford SCI. May all the mourners be comforted. May he rest in eternal peace and glory. May the memory of his life be a blessing and an inspiration in our lives. - Larry Holman*

Larry Holman - October 01, 2020 at 10:52 AM

ME

Thank You Larry!

Mike Edwards - October 01, 2020 at 12:50 PM

SE

Thank you Larry, I agree he was truly a giant!

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:14 PM

JC

“ *Deepest condolences to the entire 'Reverend' 'Brother' Dwight David 'Family' from ALL of 'Us' of The VETERANS of 'DELTA' 1/12 Vietnam WAR (1963 - 1972 and, still serving) 'Association'. Rest In Peace 'Brother', Rest In Peace. Lest we ever, ever, forget. Please, to learn more about OUR beloved 'Brother' Dwight David, go to our magnificent 'Delta' Memorial web-site at: www.cattrack6india.com .*

John G. Gergulis, 'Association' COMMAND - September 30, 2020 at 06:54 PM

ME

Thank You for sharing!

Mike Edwards - October 01, 2020 at 12:57 PM

CA

*Will miss your smile and laughter at the next DELTA reunion.
I never forgot your reaching out to me after Dieters death with
the stories about your time with him at Ft. Benning and Vietnam
You are in GODs hands now. Time to rest.*

Carolyn Arnold

carolyn A arnold - October 01, 2020 at 03:08 PM

ME

*Carolyn, he was great at comforting and giving a different perspective
of things. He's in God's hands and doesn't have to worry about the pain
of cancer or other ailments. Thanks fr sharing your thoughts, they are
appreciated*

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:20 PM

SE

*We appreciate the condolences John and the information that you
shared.*

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:08 PM

SE

Carolyn, thank you for sharing with us.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:11 PM

SE

Carolyn, thank you for sharing with us.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:11 PM

AW

“*My Beautiful Brother, even though we shared the same birthday (10/10/1945), we mirrored each other with after your leaving RCS for 7 years, we both showed up at a meeting wearing the SAME model wristwatch, and our sons pursuing the medical profession. Dwight, you have truly been a blessing to the the veteran in particular, and HUMANITY in general. An Arabic phrase details you as it says... "Truth is the eye of the storm, and Dwight Edwards is nothing but a mere raindrop looking for a fertile place to fall. A poet, who spoke to the deaf, A scribe-whose ledger is the wind, A rainbow in the mind of the blind. Now that you have crossed the Rubicon, may your next life be full of nothing but BLUE SKIES and GREEN LIGHTS."*“

We LOVE YOU VERY MUCH.... Arto & Syvilla also,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

Arto Woods - September 30, 2020 at 02:22 PM

CE

Blessings and love to you Arto & Syvilla

Carolyn

Carolyn Edwards - October 01, 2020 at 01:34 PM

SE

Thank you Arto & Syvilla for your support during this time and the delicious fruit basket!

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 09:47 PM

MF

“ Dear Diane, Stephen, Michael, and all members of Dwight’s family,

It is good that I waited to send this, allowing the initial shock and sadness at Dwight’s passing to wash through me and allow me to now reflect briefly on his participation in making this a better world during his lifetime.

First meeting Dwight in 1981 when he was employed by the Veterans Multi-Service Center in Philadelphia, it was clear he understood veterans and was a staunch advocate for them. He was a welcomed addition when he joined our staff in the Philadelphia Vet Centers, using his knowledge of, and contacts throughout, the community to help veterans and their families. He was called on during veteran hostage situations; he traveled regularly to counsel life sentenced prisoners at Graterford State Prison; he conferred and collaborated with other Vet Centers’ staffs providing training and guidance when needed. He assisted with counseling at the Vietnam Veterans Memorials both in Washington, DC, and in Philadelphia when called on during significant ceremonies at both locations. When called on, Dwight was there to help.

It was the VA’s loss and Pennsylvania’s gain when Dwight left to work in the Pennsylvania Department of Health, although he would keep in touch so we could share information about the intersection of our programs and how best to help our veteran clients.

Throughout it all, we would share with each other the accomplishments of our family members, especially our children. Family was always important, and I believe the congregations wherever he was associated with a Church also witnessed this.

For now, we have our memories of Dwight, his demeanor, his physical presence, his room filling laughter. One thing I will always recall: Dwight told me that when he was nearing the end of his tour in Vietnam, he thought of Martha & the Vandellas’ “Dancing in the Street” because that’s what he pictured when he got home –

dancing in the street glad to be home. My wife and I always think of Dwight when we hear that tune – and always will.

To all of Dwight's family, our heartfelt condolences. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

*With much love,
Marty & Kathy Frick*



Marty Frick - September 30, 2020 at 11:44 AM

ME

Thanks for sharing Marty! I appreciate these memories!

Mike Edwards

Mike Edwards - September 30, 2020 at 03:33 PM

CE

Marty & Kathy, so glad we were able to spend time together in Kissimmee and these memories are beautiful.

*Love,
Carolyn Brewington-Edwards*

Carolyn Brewington Edwards - September 30, 2020 at 04:29 PM

DC

Dearest Dwight,

I can shed tears that you are gone or I can smile because you have lived.

I can close my eyes and pray that you will return or I can open my eyes and see all that you have left.

My heart can be empty because I can't see you or it can be full of the love we shared.

I can turn my back on tomorrow and live in yesterday or be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

I can remember you and only that you are not here or I can cherish your memory and let it live on.

I can cry and close my mind, be empty and turn my back or I can do what you would want, smile, open my eyes, love and go on.

You are and will always be the greatest love of my life. Until we meet again. Diane

Diane Clarke - October 02, 2020 at 06:27 AM

DS

I first met Dwight on a Veterans Tour of Vietnam in March of 2014. In Saigon, I left a small remembrance at the site where a friend died, and Dwight stepped forward and shared a prayer that completed the memorial. I'll always remember his presence, grace and comforting words that helped me honor my friend.

Thank you, Reverend Dwight!

Dan Sarago

Dan Sarago - October 02, 2020 at 11:42 AM

RR

With sincerest sympathies and condolences to Michael and Stephen and the rest of Dwight's (Bo-wight's) family. I have been praying for you since learning of Dwight's passing and will continue to pray that the Lord Jesus Christ, Himself, will comfort you and sustain you as you grieve the loss of this dear one. May you have the blessed assurance within your own heart and soul that you will indeed see him again when we - all believers - gather with our LORD and with our loved ones on the other other side of this brief life. Blessings Always. Rose 🌹 (aka Zee)

Rose Rose - October 03, 2020 at 02:53 PM

ME

Thanks Rose, glad the family was represented...it was much appreciated and the love is felt. To all others on this thread your memories and words are appreciated and his giant personality and presence will be missed- but as long as we breathe life he won't be forgotten!

Mike Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 08:24 PM

SE

Thank you Marty and Kathy for sharing your thoughts and memories with us.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:00 PM

SE

Rose, Thank you for your prayers and your loving support.

Steve Edwards - October 04, 2020 at 10:03 PM

RW

My deepest, and truly heartfelt condolences to all of Dwight's family members on this great loss.

Dwight was my steadfast friend from 7th grade at Vaux Jr. High School where I first met him (or rather he had pity on me and took me under his wing), after I moved to Philadelphia from the town of Chester, PA. We were the same age, born in the same month. Growing up in small-town Chester in the 1950's I had no notion of what a gang was. Vaux Jr. High In North Philly, on the other hand, sat in the nexus of serious teenage street gangs located on every other corner with names such as 'The Moroccos', 'The Vikings', 'The Valley' 'The United Nations', 'Zulu Nation' '16th & Seybert', and more too numerous to name. Dwight, perceiving that I was really lost in this environment, befriended me, and helped me navigate safely through those times.

He and I went on from there through Edison High School. We joined the Army together in June 1963, along with some other friends from Edison. He said in his big, but fun manner, "Ron, let's join and go Airborne!". I said OK, let's do it, but there was no way I was jumping out of a perfectly good airplane! He, on the other hand, did just that. We went to basic training together from 30th St train station in Philly on a troop train to Fort Gordon, GA, and often visited one another there at Gordon (in separate training companies) on Sundays.

After basic, our paths diverged. He went to airborne school, and I went to artillery, and later battlefield missiles. His path sent him to Vietnam. I was sent to Europe. After our discharge from service in 1966, we hooked up again along with some of the friends who joined with us. Most sadly, a couple were missing who also went to Vietnam, but did not make it out.

Dwight always had my back. I got a piece of a job after returning home, but in 1968 Dwight came to me and said that there was this program at Temple University that he just got into called 'Veterans In Public Service' (VIPS), that offered a full college education to Veterans who would go into public service work, such as teaching. He said, "Come on in Ron, I know the program head, and I'll clear the way". He did. and my life, and my family's lives have been far different as a result.

There is so much more I could say about our decades-long friendship that has lasted up until now. But there's just not enough space.

I will always gratefully, lovingly, and thankfully remember my friend, Dwight D. Edwards, who demonstrated in action what true friendship is all about.

Ron Walker

Ron Walker - October 05, 2020 at 08:57 PM

ME

Ron Walker, I truly thank you for sharing. I remember going to your home in Willingboro, but am glad that I learned the back story of your friendship. My (our- Stephen and I) Dad was a unique blend Superhero, Giant, caretaker, backbreaker! We will miss his love, inspiration, humor and personality.

Mike Edwards - October 06, 2020 at 08:23 PM