



## Garner Day Willey, Jr.

February 10, 1939 - January 21, 2016

Garner D. Willey Jr., 76, of Altavista, Virginia went home to be with the Lord on January 21, 2016 following a courageous battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis. He was the husband of Inez McDaniel Willey.

He was born February 10, 1939 in Kentucky and was the son of the late Garner D. Willey Sr. and Christine Anderson Willey. He was raised in Charlestown, Indiana and moved to Altavista, Virginia in 1978 where he worked for Abbott Laboratories and later Ross Laboratories. He retired as a Senior Project Engineer from Ross Laboratories plant in Casa Grande, Arizona.

Garner had a lifelong passion for racing cars. He owned and raced several throughout the years. He enjoyed working on anything mechanical, traveling and was an avid reader.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four daughters, Rebecca Willey Griffin and her husband Tony of Woodstock, Georgia; Virginia Willey Gibson and her husband Eddie of Altavista, Virginia; Barbara Willey Johnson and her husband Steve of Forest, Virginia and Melissa Christine Mayhew of Hurt, Virginia. One brother, Charles Willey and his wife Barbara of Arizona; and one sister, Mickey Black and her husband Jim of Massachusetts. Ten grandchildren; Kyle Griffin, Nicholas Griffin, Megan Dawson, Lauren Ellis, Kristin Gibson, Anita

Martin, Cory Johnson, Eric Johnson, Daisy Mayhew, Lily Mayhew and great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11:00am on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at Finch and Finch Chapel, Altavista, Virginia.

The family will receive friends at Finch and Finch, Altavista on Friday, January 29, 2016 between the hours of 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. and at other times at the residence.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials consider Faith Christian Academy, 361 Main Street, Hurt, Virginia 24563 or Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plantation, P.O. Box 1398, Brookneal, Virginia 24528.

Special Thanks to the caregivers of Gentle Shepherd Hospice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Finch and Finch Chapel  
809 Main St.  
Altavista, VA 24517

## Memorial Service

JAN **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Finch and Finch Chapel  
809 Main St.  
Altavista, VA 24517

# Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



---

**Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service** - January 26, 2016 at 12:31 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Garner Day Willey, Jr..*



---

January 29, 2016 at 01:55 PM



“ *My years reporting to and being mentored by Garner were very special, Garner was more like a dad as he taught me not just in Electrical and Mechanical but life. He taught Patience, Perseverance, Excellence and to never give up until whatever you are doing is 100% your very best. Garner gave me a chance with a Electrical helpers job, he believed in me and Garner Willey impacted my life more than anyone ever had prior to meeting him. Garner Willey was a very special man! I Love you my friend,*

---

**Dale Moore** - January 29, 2016 at 12:04 PM

KN

“ *Kimberly-Clark Corporation/Global Nonwovens purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Garner Day Willey, Jr..*



Kimberly-Clark Corporation/Global Nonwovens - January 28, 2016 at 02:45 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Garner Day Willey, Jr..*



January 27, 2016 at 08:59 AM

TH

“ *Tommy&Shirley Hutcherson lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



Tommy&Shirley Hutcherson - January 26, 2016 at 04:56 PM

EP

“ *Eddie Puckette lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



Eddie Puckette - January 26, 2016 at 03:04 PM



“ 7 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



---

**Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service** - January 26, 2016 at 11:57 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



---

**Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service** - January 26, 2016 at 10:41 AM

BS

“ *I worked with Garner at Abbott when he first came to Virginia. I loved talking to Garner and picking his brain about race cars...I learned alot from him on how to make cars faster. He was one of the smartest guys I ever met when it came to mechanical things. Rest in peace. Billy Seay*

---

**billy seay** - January 26, 2016 at 09:03 AM

BG

“ *Bruce & Angie Gledhill lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.* ”



---

**Bruce & Angie Gledhill** - January 26, 2016 at 08:29 AM

WS

“ *Wayne & Clara Smith lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.* ”



---

**Wayne & Clara Smith** - January 25, 2016 at 07:23 PM

KH

“ *Kim Hammond lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.* ”

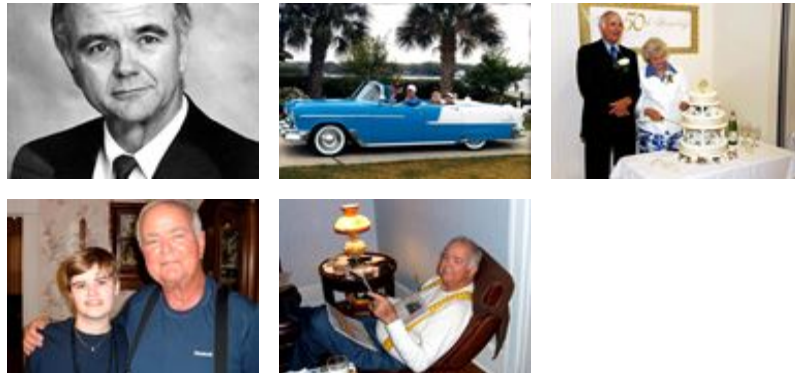


---

**Kim Hammond** - January 25, 2016 at 05:00 PM



“ 43 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - January 25, 2016 at 11:29 AM

RC

“ Robert Cox lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Robert Cox - January 24, 2016 at 10:45 PM

MS

“ Mark/Pamela Smith lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Mark/Pamela Smith - January 24, 2016 at 10:43 PM

JR

“ So sorry for your loss. The kindness man you would ever know.

*Darrell & JoAnne Rorer*



---

**JoAnne F. Rorer** - January 24, 2016 at 05:25 PM

RS

“ Ron Steiger lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



---

**Ron Steiger** - January 24, 2016 at 09:03 AM

RS

*Garner & I worked together at the HPD plant in Altavista. He was a dedicated individual who helped to make the plant more productive but more important, he was a great friend who was willing to help anyone who needed help. We pray for his family and hope they will find peace in the days ahead.*

*Helen & Ron*

---

**Ron Steiger** - January 24, 2016 at 09:10 AM

SW

“ Shelly Williams lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



---

**Shelly Williams** - January 24, 2016 at 08:56 AM

Rachel  
McDaniel  
Mings

“ Rachel McDaniel Mings lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Rachel McDaniel Mings - January 23, 2016 at 10:26 PM

VW

“ Vickie Williams lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Vickie Williams - January 23, 2016 at 10:14 PM

JR

“ Jo Ann Mayhew Rice lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Jo Ann Mayhew Rice - January 23, 2016 at 10:12 PM

BD

“ Sympathies to Garner's family. I enjoyed working with him while he was at the AltaVista plant. He was a great guy. Bunky Doss



Bunky Doss - January 23, 2016 at 08:00 PM

JB

“ *What a wonderful, person, husband, father, & grandfather this kind and gentle man was. Always willing to help out in anyway, with a smile and gentle teasing laugh, So sorry for the families great loss. Loved him and his family!*  
*Eddie & Judy Bruce*



---

**Judy Bruce** - January 23, 2016 at 07:49 PM

LS

*Thoughts and prayers to you and your family, Melissa. So sorry. I know that you will miss your dad very much.*  
*Laura Stasio*

---

**Laura Stasio** - January 24, 2016 at 03:22 PM

WS

*Dear Inez and family. I worked/watched with Garner several times all night on several HPD machines that did not "behave" until Garner got "hold of them"! He was the best trouble shooter I know - even to this day! His demeanor fooled us all - he was a genius on anything mechanical! What a treasure he was to the HPD operations in Altavista. Unmatched! I will always remember Garner and his many gifts to us all!!*

*Warren Stephenson*

*(just saw the obit in the Altavista Journal)*

---

**Warren Stephenson** - February 03, 2016 at 09:08 PM

DE

“ *Don And Norma English lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



---

**Don and Norma English** - January 23, 2016 at 07:49 PM

SB

“ *Scott And Mona Bennett lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



-----  
**Scott and Mona Bennett** - January 23, 2016 at 07:34 PM

DI

“ *Dianne Irby lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



-----  
**Dianne Irby** - January 23, 2016 at 04:49 PM

AP

“ *Anita Freeman Phillips lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



-----  
**Anita Freeman Phillips** - January 23, 2016 at 04:44 PM



“ *Eula Worsham lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



-----  
**Eula Worsham** - January 23, 2016 at 03:50 PM

CA

“ Chris And Beverly Angell lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Chris and Beverly Angell - January 23, 2016 at 03:35 PM

Jo Venckus

“ My heartfelt condolences to the family. Jo Ellen Venckus



Jo Venckus - January 23, 2016 at 02:52 PM

TH

“ Tommy&Shirley Hutcherson lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Tommy&Shirley Hutcherson - January 23, 2016 at 11:57 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joyce Fisher - January 23, 2016 at 11:40 AM

JW

“ Jason And Bobbie Wade lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Jason and Bobbie Wade - January 23, 2016 at 11:39 AM



“ Joyce Fisher lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Joyce Fisher - January 23, 2016 at 11:31 AM

JC

“ So very sorry to hear of Mr. Willey's death. Know you are in our thoughts and prayers. June and Bob Carpenter

June Carpenter - January 23, 2016 at 08:58 AM

KW

“ Ken And Joan Woodson lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Ken and Joan Woodson - January 23, 2016 at 07:45 AM

GG

“ *Gwen Goggin lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



---

**Gwen Goggin** - January 22, 2016 at 11:34 AM

SD

“ *So sorry about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Steve and Jean*

---

**Steve and Jean dalton** - January 22, 2016 at 10:34 AM

HB

“ *Haywood & Katie Belvin lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



---

**Haywood & Katie Belvin** - January 22, 2016 at 10:34 AM

SD

“ *Steve And Jean Dalton lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



---

**Steve and Jean dalton** - January 22, 2016 at 10:32 AM

RC

“ Ray And Kay Caldwell lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Ray and Kay Caldwell - January 22, 2016 at 10:21 AM

BM

“ Bud And Dean Moon lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Bud and Dean Moon - January 22, 2016 at 10:14 AM

LM

“ Lucinda Mattox lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.



Lucinda Mattox - January 22, 2016 at 10:01 AM

EE

“ We are so sorry to hear of your sadness at this time. Our thoughts & prayers go out to his family at this difficult time. Gene & Mary Edmonds

Eugene & Mary Edmonds - January 21, 2016 at 07:29 PM

EE

“ *Eugene & Mary Edmonds lit a candle in memory of Garner Day Willey, Jr.*



---

**Eugene & Mary Edmonds** - January 21, 2016 at 07:25 PM