



## Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum

July 17, 1938 - January 2, 2022

Ernest "Fireman Ernie" Eugene Bynum, Jr., age 83 of Zanesville, passed away peacefully in his sleep surrounded by his family, on Sunday, January 2, 2022. He was born Sunday, July 17, 1938, in Parkersburg, WV the son of Ernest Eugene Bynum, Sr., and Kathleen (Williams) Bynum, and was a member of St. Paul A.M.E.

After graduation Ernie joined the United States Air Force, following his service to his country he returned to Zanesville to carve of a living in the community in which he was raised. He married Shirley (Norman) Bynum and began raising a family.

After holding several jobs, Ernie joined the Zanesville Fire Department and retired in 1993 following many years of service. During this time he became a Fire Arson Investigator, an Ohio State Fire Safety Instructor, IAFF Local 88 President of the Zanesville Fire Department, and Fire Safety Inspector.

Ernie was many things to many people in Zanesville. He was an entrepreneur with Bynum Trucking, and Computer Lifeline, Inc. Ernie was a mentor to many young men and women in the community. He coached South Rebels Bidy League Football for 12 years, and also coached men's basketball teams. Following retirement from the Fire Department, Ernie served as the City of Zanesville Parks and Recreation Director for twenty years. Ernie served his

local community through many organizations and boards. He served as President of the Rambo Health Center, President of Starlight Industries, President of Zanesville Civic League, Founder of The Minority Business Resource Network, Golden Rule Lodge # 30, Free & Accepted Masons Prince Hall, N.A.A.C.P., Muskingum Valley Officials Association, Founder of the African American Community Fund, Ohio High School Official Training Committee and Community of Voices.

Ernie is survived by wife: Shirley Bynum; two children: Lisa Bynum and Tony (Cheryl) Bynum both of Zanesville; grandchildren: Cory, Lionel, Amalia, Ashley and Allison; great grandchildren: Ashton, Jordyn, Chloe and Kash; one sister: Joyce Dickerson of Columbus, and several nieces and nephews.

Ernie was preceded in death by his parents, and one sister JoAnn Dickinson.

Friends may call Wednesday, January 5, 2021, from 11:00 AM, till 1:00 PM, at the Hillis, Combs & Nestor Funeral Home, 935 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, where funeral services will follow at 1:00 PM, with Rev. Clifton Kilpatrick officiating. Burial will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery with the United States Air Force, VFW Post 1058, and American Legion Post 29 conducting full military honors. To sign the online register book or to send a personal condolence note please visit [www.hilliscombsnestor.com](http://www.hilliscombsnestor.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Cemetery

548 Pershing Road  
Zanesville, OH 43701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 5.** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Funeral Service

**JAN 5.** 1:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
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# Tribute Wall



“ Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ Ernie was my first boss in high school. We served lunches to kids in the park system during the summer. This was my first job working with kids. I went on to become a speech therapist in Zanesville, helping many children in the community. That is what I took from Ernie, how to be kind and caring particularly for children. Every time a kiddo entered his office he would light up and engage with them. He went out of his way to try to make a safe, caring environment for the kids of Muskingum county. He was a wonderful man and excellent role model. The world needs more people like Ernie!

Jessica Baker Cale - January 29, 2022 at 06:32 AM



“ Dear Bynum family,  
I am sorry for your loss. People like Ernie made the world, and Zanesville (my home town) a better place. In the future, he will be remembered in the Veteran's Memorial Project records at the Reference Department of John McIntire Library, gifted by the Military Families Support Group 2003-2014.

Sincerely,  
Aleta Jane Gookins-Smidt  
P.O. Box 118  
Stephen, MN 56757

Aleta Jane Gookins-Smidt - January 16, 2022 at 07:16 PM

J&

“ My heart goes out to Fireman Ernie and his family. Ernie was a great person and was a great mentor to the young folks that visited the firehouse on Wabash avenue. My grandmother lived 3 houses down from the firehouse, and every summer my siblings and I would go down to the firehouse and talk with Ernie and he showed us the firehouse and all of the fire trucks. We would play for hours at the firehouse on a fire truck that wasn't hardly used anymore. As adults, my brother and I have both become firefighters and we love every minute of it. Ernie was a great blessing and he knew his stuff. Ernie will be missed by everyone who got the chance to meet him. Rest in heaven Ernie.

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**Jason Haren &Family** - January 08, 2022 at 05:46 PM

WH

“ Sorrow goes out to Ernie's family in their loss !  
I'll always remember Ernie having a smile and kind word to everyone .  
He will be remembered by all who had the  
pleasure of having known him !

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**Wood Hardcastle** - January 05, 2022 at 09:24 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,  
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,*

*May your memories of Ernest Eugene Bynum, Jr., give you peace, comfort and strength...*

*Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.*

*My thoughts  
and prayers to the family of ....*

*US Air Force Veteran, Ernest Eugene Bynum, Jr., is “A True American Hero” God Bless†*

*† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †*

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**Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum** - January 05, 2022 at 05:31 AM

KF

“ *Ken Mason & Family purchased the Cherished Memories for the family of Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum.*



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**Ken Mason & Family** - January 04, 2022 at 02:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum.*



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January 04, 2022 at 01:42 PM



“ *"Fireman Ernie" visited my First Grade class several times when we were studying the people in our community who helped us. He brought his coat, boots, helmet and gloves. He would ask the children what sound a firetruck made and everyone knew he was visiting us! He explained his job and would lift one of the children up and into his boots! Someone always got to try his helmet and coat. He was a much appreciated and much loved visitor! He served our community well. He will be missed. God bless you. Pastor Doris Flynn*

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**Doris Flynn** - January 04, 2022 at 01:17 PM



*I have very fond memories of Ernie from a young age. He was our trashman and would always talk to my daddy. A great man who will be missed by many...RIP Ernie 🙏❤️🙏*

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**Tamara (Owens) Orwig** - January 04, 2022 at 08:18 PM



“ *So sorry to hear the news of Mr. Ernie's passing. My family sends our condolences to the family. Prayers and Deepest sympathy to all of you.*

*Respectfully,  
Destaine Buck, Lucy Buck, and Sally Joseph*

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**Destaine Devoll** - January 04, 2022 at 12:44 PM

LO

“ Ernie and his parents were special friends of my parents. He will always be remembered in my prayers.



Linda Browning O'Brien - January 04, 2022 at 11:05 AM

KV

“ Mr Bynum was a special person. He will be missed. Deepest sympathies to his family  
From Fellow fireman Dale Vandebark and wife Kay.

Kay Vandebark - January 04, 2022 at 10:13 AM

KL

“ Kim Roberts Lander lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum



Kim Roberts Lander - January 04, 2022 at 08:46 AM

KL

“ Lisa, Shirley, Tony and family. So sorry to hear of your loss. Ernie was a Great Man. Definitely in heaven with GOD and his angels. Thoughts and prayers for comfort and peace at this time.

Kim Roberts Lander - January 04, 2022 at 08:45 AM

PB

“ *My sincere sympathies to all of you. I worked some with Ernie when I was manager of the Zanesville Downtown Association. He was such a kind, caring individual. It was my pleasure to work with him. Sincerely, Patty Boyd*

Patty Boyd - January 04, 2022 at 08:02 AM

ST

“ *Condolences and prayers to the Bynum family during this difficult time. Niece Sherri Norman Thompson*



Sherri Thompson - January 04, 2022 at 08:02 AM

PM

“ *Phylis Murgatroyd lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum*



phylis murgatroyd - January 03, 2022 at 11:52 PM

DL

“ *I met Ernie as he held our fie school in Cumberland , Ohio. I always had the upmost respect for Ernie teaching me many things as a fireman. My condolences for the family as he will always be remembered.*



Don Lemmon - January 03, 2022 at 09:51 PM

CC

“ Chris & Roger Carper purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum.



Chris & Roger Carper - January 03, 2022 at 08:00 PM

PM

“ So sad and sorry to hear about this. I am sending prayers and love to you all during this heartbreaking time. I have some of the fondest memories of him while growing up. He has truly touched so many lives in our community. He will truly be missed. I will definitely miss seeing him on the porch in the summers !!!! Lots of love to you all.....🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️

Patricia Morgan - January 03, 2022 at 07:36 PM

DJ

“ Bynum Family, you are ALL in my PRAYERS ! We used to laugh at some of my antics when I was on the fire department. I used to call him a "scope dope" (military)...but Ernie would say NO...I'm a "target tracker"! We shared July 17th as a birthday!  
Don Janicki

Donald Janicki - January 03, 2022 at 06:08 PM

SA

He was such a nice man. Usually saw him at Bingo. RIP Ernie 🙏❤️🙏  
❤️🙏❤️

Sandy Alton - January 03, 2022 at 07:19 PM

RF

“ *Robin Franklin lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Fireman Ernie" E. Bynum*



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**Robin Franklin** - January 03, 2022 at 05:22 PM

LB

“ *Lisa, I am so sorry for your loss*



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**Lee Baker** - January 03, 2022 at 04:13 PM

RL

“ *To the Bynum Family, sorry to read of your loss. Your family are in our prayers. Ernie was one of the good men in the community that will be greatly missed. He was one of the building blocks for semi-pro sports in Zanesville. RIP Ernie Randy Lincicome*



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**Randy Lincicome** - January 03, 2022 at 03:45 PM