



## Larry Paul Rowe

March 15, 1957 - December 10, 2021

Larry Paul Rowe, 64, of Huntington, WV, husband of Mary Ann Murphy Rowe, died Friday, December 10, 2021 in St. Mary's Medical Center. He retired from the US Army Corps of Engineers. Due to COVID-19 there will be a private family service. In lieu of flowers the family request you make donations in Larry's memory to the Shoals Missionary Baptist Church, (PO Box 34, Shoals, WV 25562). Chapman's Mortuary is assisting the family. Online condolences may be sent to [www.chapmans-mortuary.com](http://www.chapmans-mortuary.com).

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ I am utterly heartbroken.

*Larry was my co-worker but he was also a dear friend and so much more because he had a special goodness to his character and charm to his demeanor. Larry's keen intelligence and general sense of fun brought an energy and excitement to the work we did that most would have considered anything but exciting! Larry's skills, his friendly, caring attitude, and his humble demeanor quickly established him as a go-to person throughout the building for customized financial data queries, analyses, and reports. (And maybe even some golf tips if they were lucky. 😊)*

*I shared an office with Larry for several years but very early on I considered him a dear friend. There was a purity about Larry...never one to gossip or say ugly things. He was positive and happy. He brought dignity and honor to our office. And I am so thankful that Larry was in my life. He truly made me a better and happier person.*

*Rest in peace, dear Larry, and please send an angel to look over Mary Ann.*

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**Debbie Czewski** - February 01 at 06:49 PM

“ *Mary Ann’s Tribute to Her Husband (Part 1 of 2)*  
(Read at Memorial Service for me by Pastor Mark Booth)

*Larry is the love of my life and I wanted to honor his life and express how special he is to me. I was blessed to have shared 30 years of his precious life. He was God’s answered prayer for me at the exact time I needed it most and there has never been one day in 30 years that I have not thanked the Good Lord for him. I will be giving thanks for him until the day I die. I can’t believe that I was God’s answered prayer for him but he truly believed I was.*

*He has shared everything with me, his hopes and dreams, including the home he dreamed of building when he was just a little boy and his wonderful family....his parents, Bernard and Sherry, his Aunt Sue, his Granny, his three brothers – Jeff, Mike, and Brett, his nephews Ryan and Joschua and niece Haleigh, and his grand nephews Levi, Keegan, and Killian.*

*He spent every minute he could with his youngest brother Brett who was so very special to him. They worked together on all of their projects. This was a joy to him. He loved his family dearly and I love them too.*

*Bernard always told me that Larry was a “good” boy; he never had to give him a whipping. He wasn’t perfect though...Sherry told me she had to tap his chubby little hands once when he was a toddler...she walked into Aunt Sissy’s living room and found a tiny little chocolate mess....he had helped himself to some chocolate candy he found in the candy dish.*

*Bernard and Sherry raised four good men. I have often told them this over the years; I also told them that I got the smartest, handsomest, kindest, most generous, and the very best one of the bunch. They just smiled.*

*My family treasured him. My parents, brother and sister, all my nieces and nephews, and their families love him.*

*Everyone who knew him loved him. He was never too busy to help anyone he could. He was always helping the kids with one project or another and truly enjoyed every minute of it.*

*The Rows are all hard workers. Larry could do anything he tried and he always tried to get it perfect. He spent the last good day of his life doing exactly what he wanted to do...helping his nephew Ryan put in a hot water tank and when he left our house that morning he was looking forward to spending the day with him. He loved Ryan dearly and was so proud of how hard he has worked to become an electrician and what a good father he is to his beautiful children. I believe Ryan was blessed beyond measure to enjoy Larry’s last good day of life on Earth. He was proud of all the kids.*

*Larry was the smartest man I know. He could figure out any new electronic gadget; I could not figure out how to turn on the TV the other night. He could master anything from house construction, finish carpentry and cabinetry, painting, plumbing, and electrical wiring to computer database programming, complex accounting, and tax work.*

*I may have slightly exaggerated about the painting; Brett, our expert painter, is probably laughing and rolling his eyes about now; that was their little joke.*

*He loved golf and had many hours of fun with his special golfing buddies Steve and Earl Barr, J.D. Billups, Mike Murphy, and Phil Perdue. The other day he came home from golfing with Mike and Phil and was really disgusted with his swing. He said he lost a bunch of balls and said "I'm either going to quit this game or figure out what I'm doing wrong." I've heard that line countless times over the years. I asked him if he had any fun at all and he said "Oh yes....you always have a good time with Mike and Phil". He truly loved them all.*

*The next time he went out for what would be his last 18 holes, he ran into a young man he'd golfed with a few times before and they played together. When he came home, he was so pleased; he played a good round. I think he was a pretty good golfer too.*

*(See Part 2 that follows).*

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**Mary Ann Rowe** - December 25, 2021 at 11:49 AM

MR

“ *Mary Ann’s Tribute to Her Husband (Part 2 of 2)*

*He had many close friends that loved him like a brother... Fred Sanders, Kim and Steve Barr, JD Billups, and Barbara and Dave Withers come to mind. He loved these special friends so very much.*

*He also had a very special relationship with Coach Jim Thornburg...he was one of Coach T’s “boys”. Larry dearly loved and respected him and Jim had a profound influence on his life. On Coach T’s recommendation, Larry was hired at the Corps of Engineers; Larry’s CPA certification may have helped too. This job dramatically changed Larry’s life and allowed him to develop methods to improve accounting and engineering management procedures at the Corps. Larry was able to retire a lot earlier than he had originally planned because Jim put in a good word for him. He was forever grateful to Coach T and I am too.*

*Most importantly, Larry lived every day for the Lord and he was a walking example of Christ’s love. His heart was full of love for everyone. Larry loved his church and serving the Lord. He has attended the Shoals Missionary Baptist Church since he was a baby. He loved studying the Bible and teaching Sunday School. He would love that his memorial service was held there.*

*The Lord called him home suddenly, without any warning whatsoever, and so very much sooner than all of us would have liked. He was ready to go to his reward in Heaven that he so richly deserved. That is a great comfort to me and to all of us. His going first has made dying easier for me. I know someday I will be with him again.*

*I will truly miss him. He was the most thankful, kind, gentle, serene, peaceful, and loving man. He was a truly a happy man. I cannot say enough good things about him. He was full of love. Knowing him has made me a better person.*

*Those of you know us well may have heard of some recent discussion at our house about Larry’s “relaxed” attitude regarding home security. He just wasn’t too concerned about locking things up...he always hoped for and looked for the best in humanity and I’m a little more pessimistic.*

*Now, I sure hope he has left those Pearly Gates unlocked for me.*

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**Mary Ann Rowe** - December 25, 2021 at 11:39 AM

RD

“ *Dearest Mary Ann, i remember both you and Larry with fondness. I was shocked to learn of his passing. Please accept my sincere condolences on your loss. ❤️*  
*Robin Steele Dorfer, BHS Class of ‘75*

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**Robin Steele Dorfer** - December 20, 2021 at 06:21 PM

JT

“ Larry Rowe was a great guy.

*He was a great teammate when he and I played Midget League football and Junior High. A natural athlete, Larry worked hard and hit hard but played by the book.*

*He was a great classmate. At Buffalo High, Larry could solve the most complicated physics problems in a few seconds while I would labor all day over the same problems and still get several wrong. He was generous with his time and ability when anybody needed help. It's no exaggeration to say that students and faculty universally liked and respected Larry.*

*At Shoals Baptist Church, he quietly served without fanfare and accomplished much for the Master and the Kingdom. As boys, he and I donned shepherds costumes for Christmas programs and ate hot dogs at VBS picnics.*

*Larry had a ready smile, never complained, modeled balance, worked faithfully, and loved people.*

*Condolences to Sherry and family and to Mary Ann and family. It's a great comfort to know that, by God's grace, we'll be with Larry again because of the perfect sacrifice of the Lord Jesus for us.*

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**Jeff Taylor** - December 20, 2021 at 01:21 PM

SB

“ Larry was my best friend and I can't tell you anything about him you don't already know. Our friendship was on and off the golf course and I will cherish it forever. You could ask Larry for anything, day or night and he would drop whatever he was doing to help you out.

We always enjoyed our time together on the course, whether playing good or bad.

Larry wasn't shy about giving lessons on the course. Some liked it and some didn't. But, we always tried to help each other play our best...he always meant well. We had a saying that came from our friend Toby. If we hit a shot offline we would say "we had our towards off".

But one place Larry never had his 'towards off' was his relationship with the Lord. He was ALWAYS straight down the middle.

When my dear mother passed away I remember my dad saying that "she lived her whole life for this day." The same holds true for Larry...he wouldn't return to this world if he could.

As a Christian, I fully believe that I will see Larry again and that sure is comforting!

Larry, I thank God for the Blessing you have been in my life. Until we meet again my friend... Steve

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Steve Barr - December 17, 2021 at 04:07 PM

KB

“ Larry and Mary Ann Rowe have been two of the most supportive friends to Me, Steve and our kids. When we made the decision to adopt our babies from Romania they were there for us from the beginning till the day we brought them home. Our Kids grew up calling them Uncle Larry and Aunt Mary Ann and loved going over to their house. There was always so much love there and Jacob and Audrey felt it.

I will miss Larry's sweet smile and Laughter. He would always say after chuckling "now Kim!" We always joked around about he and I being born in March. We always said "the sweetest babies are born in March." That definitely was true about Larry!!

The stories are countless...We always had the best times together whether setting on the porch or setting on the beach. Larry was always interested and cared about Me, Steve and the kids. I thank GOD for Larry Rowe.

AUDREY sends her love to Uncle Larry, AKA LareBear❤️

JACOB is comforted because he knows that Uncle Larry is with Jesus and that he will always be there to talk to.

Kim Barr

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Kim Barr - December 17, 2021 at 02:43 PM

CT

“ Our family sends their deepest condolences to all of the family. Larry was always so nice and kind to everyone and he will definitely be missed by all of us. I always looked forward to the family gatherings with the Rowe family. He lived his life on his terms and he is now living his eternal heavenly home on his terms! 🙏🏻🙏🏻🙏🏻

Charlene Thomas - December 17, 2021 at 12:24 PM



“ Larry Rowe Speech

*My name is Jamie Withers and my family and I moved next door to Larry when in 1984 when I was only 2 years old. Larry was probably only 25-26 years old when he first met me. I greeted him with a walnut to the head. He would jokingly tell this story to anyone I would introduce him too, including a few girlfriends and my wife Amanda, Almost all my childhood memories involved Larry. He built the playhouse my brothers and I had as kids. He taught me how to properly fry an egg in vegetable oil. He would drive us to elementary school in the mornings and pick us up in his red Pontiac Firebird. It was so cool I would tell other kids he was my dad. Larry would let me sit on his lap and drive down Old Spring Valley Road. He must have been in his late 20's early 30's at the time. Living next to the 3 Withers Boys was no easy life. I was more like Dennis the Menace. We shot his front door out with our BB guns, hit him with a water balloon slingshot while he was plowing his garden, dented up his garage doors playing hockey in his driveway and eating his garden veggies while he was at work. He once caught me trying to teach my little brother how to do burnouts in my dad's Ford pickup. He was always willing to help me with my math homework. To my knowledge he never turned us into our parents for our Mia behavior. Although he did get about 20 years of free lawn service but, I still think we got the better end of that deal. He would spend a lot of Christmas mornings with us watching us open presents. We weren't allowed to start Christmas until he came over. He would eat a lot of family dinners with us growing up and would always love a good bowl of ice cream. As I grew older he was always willing to give me tax and investing advice encouraging me to pay extra on my mortgage. I don't remember if I told Larry the last time I saw him if I told him I loved him but, I know I gave him a big hug. He was like a dad to us and he will be greatly missed. I will see him in heaven one day but, I sure enjoyed the time I had with him. I Love You Larry.*

Jamie Withers - December 17, 2021 at 10:55 AM

SR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories



Shawna Rowe - December 17, 2021 at 10:20 AM

SR

“ Larry spent the last day of his life here on earth helping our family. There are many different thoughts and feelings I have had trying to process this unexpected loss of someone near and dear to my heart. The one feeling I would like to share is blessed. Blessed that someone we love so deeply was at our home spending time and helping us. Blessed that the last memory Ryan will have is spending time and joking around with his Uncle. Blessed that the very last thing I told Larry was how much I truly appreciated everything he has done for our family. Blessed that both of our boys were home from school that day and got to see him before God called him home.

To me, Larry was one of the best Uncles I could have wanted for Ryan. He was a great role model, a patient teacher, a solid supporter and constant in his life. Ryan knew he could always count on his Uncle Larry. He was always in his corner.

Larry was also the most loving and committed great uncle to the boys. He and Aunt Mary Ann have been to birthday parties, holiday dinners, family events, sports games and much more. He always made sure to drop off goodies and he especially made sure to show how much he loved them. I believe the saying “It takes a village to raise a child (or in our case children) and we lost a wonderful and important member of our village.

Lastly, Larry was a loving Uncle to me. He was friendly and welcoming from the first time I met him. He’s helped me with many different things. He was genuinely kind-hearted. He was always fun to be around, and I think I loved how he could joke with and pick on Ryan the most. I saw Larry’s new truck before Ryan and I still have the picture Larry and I took of me in the driver seat that we sent to Ryan to rub it in.

He was the most selfless, thoughtful, and loving person I’ve had the pleasure of getting to know. Larry is truly the only person I know who would end up spending their last day of life lending a helping hand. He was one a kind. I will cherish the memories made and make sure to continue to share those memories with the boys as they grow older. He is very loved and will be sorely missed.

Shawna Rowe - December 17, 2021 at 10:19 AM

JH

“ Larry was the true definition of who we should all inspire to be. He was caring, thoughtful, always lending a hand to anyone in need and carried a permanent smile/grin. I used to enjoy our lunchtime talks at work which consisted of everything from sports, world events, golf, stocks or family talk. We would always find something to get Marry Ann going LOL.

*A great man, the true definition of a Christian and I'm sure he's enjoying playing 18 holes on new courses in heaven. Rest In Peace my friend.*

*Jason, Chantelle, Emma and Caleb Harrah*

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**Jason Harrah** - December 17, 2021 at 08:01 AM

FJ

“ *A Tribute to my Best Friend Larry Rowe  
by Fred Sanders Jr*

*As long as I can remember Larry has been my best friend and part of my life. We grew up together in this church and through the Buffalo School system where in homeroom they seated us in alphabetical order, so there we were next to each other. First Rowe, then Sanders. We went through Little league football all the way through high school football together. Larry would tell me to tap him on the back which way I was going and he would open up the hole for me. Larry then graduated Buffalo with high honors so at graduation they took the senior class officers across the stage first and guess what. We were both class officers, so we were together again, first Rowe then Sanders. At my wedding he was my best man. Then later on we both worked at H.E. Curry. You know Larry wasn't afraid to tackle anything, so he built his house. He was so smart he could figure out anything that he needed to do. The trim work in his house is second to none. If you haven't seen it you should. He even dug his footer by hand for his house. When Larry did anything he tried to make it perfect. That's just the Larry Rowe way of doing things. In closing he was the kind of man you would want your daughter to marry one day. He lived his life like Christ in a way that he was ready to go be with the LORD when his number was called. Larry is where he wants to be. The tears and pain we have here are because of what he meant to us and is no longer here with us. We miss him but are happy for him because of where he now is. It has been a blessing to have Larry as my best friend and this has made me a better person. Now Larry, old number 65, has opened up a hole and made it to the goal line. So Larry, one of these days when my number is called I'll be running play # 286, right through that hole you opened up and I'll make it to that goal line and we will rejoice with JESUS together forever.*

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**Fred Sanders Jr** - December 16, 2021 at 10:20 AM

BS

“ Mary Ann, I was saddened to hear of Larrys passing. Larry was a fine person and a great athlete. We were teammates on BHS's first golf team. I am thinking of you during this time of sorrow, please take care of yourself. Bob Steele, BHS class of 75.

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**Bob Steele** - December 15, 2021 at 03:26 PM

TW

“ Please accept our deepest condolences Sherry and family. Though we haven't met in many years we well remember Larry as a good boy and our prayers are with you in this difficult time. May God Bless and comfort you.

*Tom and Charlotte Wilson.*

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**Thomas Woodrow Wilson** - December 15, 2021 at 02:54 PM

DS

“ I worked with Larry at USACE before he retired and he was like a mentor to me and several other new engineers with all the data management and fancy spreadsheets he developed and was able to automate and do reporting from. We would have never progressed where we are now without Larry's knowledge and guidance. It's been several years since we've met up with him and Mary Ann for lunch, but we were hoping to do that again soon once COVID eased up. Thoughts and prayers are with the family and Larry will surely be missed until we all meet again.

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**Dustin Sawyers** - December 15, 2021 at 08:30 AM



“ So sorry to hear this. Haven't seen Larry since high school, but I remember him well. He was one of those people who made a positive impact on you. Smart, athletic, but also down to earth and easy going. Thoughts and prayers to your family. Ed Warnick Class of 1975.

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**Ed Warnick III** - December 14, 2021 at 07:46 PM

BN

“ So sorry for your loss. You all will be in my thoughts and prayers

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**Burman A. Nelson** - December 13, 2021 at 12:06 AM

TB

“ *Sherry, Jeff, Mike and Josch*  
*Our families have been together every since I can remember. I'm so sorry for your loss. Many prayers, love and thoughts are with all of you. (Larry's wife as well)*

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**Tina Blankenship** - December 12, 2021 at 06:17 PM

DW

“ *RIP Larry - I remember riding the bus with you and your brother Jeff (whites Creek) back in the 70's. You were a kind and nice student. Prayers for your family and friends left behind* ❤️

*Debra A N Wilson*

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**Debra Wilson** - December 12, 2021 at 05:47 PM