



## William Wayne "Red" McDowell

June 23, 1923 - February 9, 2024

William Wayne "Red" McDowell, age 100 of Mattoon, IL passed away at 9:52 AM, Friday, February 9, 2024, at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center in Mattoon, IL.

A funeral service in his honor will be held at 1:00 PM, Thursday, February 15, 2024, at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938. Pastor Tom Skinner is officiating. A committal will immediately follow at Dodge Grove Cemetery in Mattoon, IL. Military Rites will be conducted by the Mattoon VFW Post 4325. The visitation will be held from 11:00 AM until the time of service at the funeral home.

Wayne was born on June 23, 1923, in Mattoon, IL to the late Ray McDowell and Mabel (Reagin) McDowell. He married Martha Elizabeth Henson on December 8, 1946; she preceded him in death January 11, 2019. He is survived by one daughter, Marcia McDowell Harmon of Mattoon, IL; one granddaughter, Donna Jeannette Bean of Mattoon, IL; one brother, Don McDowell of Mattoon, IL; and special niece, Penny McDowell of Mattoon, IL. He was preceded in death by one son-in-law, Michael Harmon, and siblings: Bob McDowell, Marge McDowell Ganley, Dorothy McDowell Easter, Jim McDowell, Lyle McDowell, and Roberta McDowell.

Wayne honorably served his country in the United States Army. For many years he was employed at the United States Postal Service in Mattoon, IL where he retired after many years of dedicated service. A skilled artisan, Mr. McDowell had the hobby of making and repairing watches. He was a lifetime

member of the Americal Division Newsletter, and Mattoon VFW Post 4325. His love for animals was evident, he had a beloved chihuahua named Peanut and three cats named Heathcliff, Sonic, and Precious Sonja which meant the world to him. When he was younger, he enjoyed pitching horseshoes with his friends. He also enjoyed watching RFD-TV and the Game Show Network, Country music and was a longtime friend of "Whisperin" Bill Anderson, playing solitaire and card games which was a form of worship for him. He was an avid fan of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Our rock, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, you will be deeply missed by all.

Memorial donations in his honor may be given to the family.

Please visit [www.mitchell-jerdan.com](http://www.mitchell-jerdan.com) or [www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome) to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Dodge Grove Cemetery

917 North 22nd Street  
Mattoon, IL 61938

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **15**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.  
1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
(217) 234-8828  
[contact@mitchelljerdan.com](mailto:contact@mitchelljerdan.com)  
<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

## Service

FEB **15**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.  
1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
(217) 234-8828  
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# Tribute Wall



“ Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of William Wayne "Red" McDowell



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - February 15, 2024 at 01:38 PM

VH

Beautiful service and tribute to a life well lived ❤️ May God bless and comfort you all during this time and always 🙏

Vickie Hayes - February 15, 2024 at 05:14 PM

LC

What a beautiful service for Grandpa Wayne. I so regret not meeting him. I know through his daughter and grand daughter what a wonderful man he was . WELL DONE MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT WELL DONE.

Lyda Creath - February 15, 2024 at 07:47 PM

MH

Wonderful service. Hope everyone watched that could not be at the service.

Marcia McDowell Harmon - February 15, 2024 at 10:08 PM

BH

“ We were blessed to meet Mr. McDowell he is a legend. Love ya Brian & Tina Humphrey.

Brian Humphrey - February 14, 2024 at 09:07 PM

WB

“ Remembering Wayne as a great father and grandfather. Remember him at the Post office also. Always nice. Thinking if Marcia, Donna and family at this sad time



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**Wanda Baker** - February 14, 2024 at 06:01 PM

SV

“ Sorry to hear about Wayne's passing. The American Legion Indianapolis Board Unit Team sends our condolences to your family. We will keep you and Wayne in our thoughts and prayers...

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**Steven Voller** - February 14, 2024 at 01:03 PM

PL

“ I am very sorry to hear of the loss of your dad and grandpa, Marcia and Donna. I am glad that you were able to enjoy many years with him, but I know you will miss him greatly. I will be thinking of you in the days ahead. Pam Lamb.



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**Pamela S. Lamb** - February 14, 2024 at 10:42 AM

JS

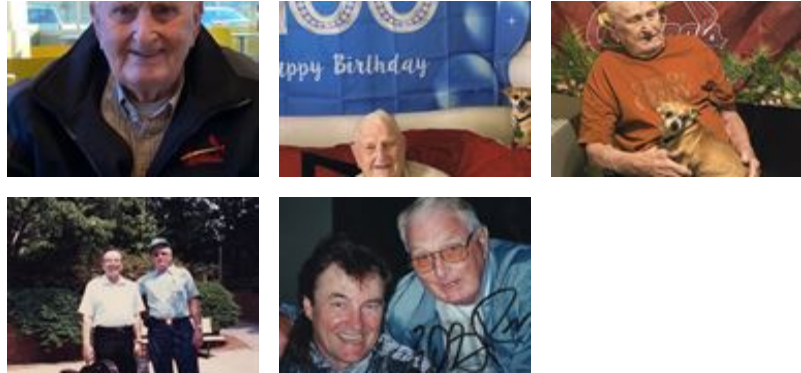
“ So Sorry for your Loss, your in my prayers Joyce Abbott Standley

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**Joyce Abbott Standley** - February 14, 2024 at 10:30 AM



“ 68 files added to the album Life Tributes



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - February 13, 2024 at 06:47 PM

LC

Marcia I am trying to watch but it isn't working for me I am sorry.

Lyda Jean Creath - February 15, 2024 at 02:19 PM

DM

“ Don and Marlisse - Sheri and Mike purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of William Wayne "Red" McDowell.



Don and Marlisse - Sheri and Mike - February 13, 2024 at 05:58 PM

DM

“ Don and Marlisse - Sheri and Mike planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Wayne "Red" McDowell.

Don and Marlisse - Sheri and Mike - February 13, 2024 at 05:58 PM

DB

“ Grandpa you are missed more than words can say. I have so many memories and I'm grateful and honored to have been your granddaughter. Please know peanut is well taken care of same with your boys and girl.



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**Donna J. Bean** - February 13, 2024 at 04:48 PM

MH

“ Marcia McDowell Harmon lit a candle in memory of William Wayne "Red" McDowell



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**Marcia McDowell Harmon** - February 13, 2024 at 04:43 PM