



## R. Ward McKnight

August 14, 1932 - September 7, 2020

R. Ward McKnight, 88, of Columbia, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2020 at the Neighborhoods in Columbia.

Ward was born on August 14, 1932 in Osage County, Missouri to the late Ted and Ioda (Thompson) McKnight. He graduated from Chamois High School. He served his country in the Air Force during the Korean War.

He was wed to Shirley Brantley in 1956 and she preceded in him death. He then married Betty Barnes in 1969 and she preceded him in death.

Ward McKnight began McKnight Tire in Jefferson City on July 1, 1963. One year later he expanded to Columbia, Missouri. The company is still in operation today. His hobbies included raising, riding and training Tennessee Walking Horses. He was also an avid hunter and outdoorsman.

He is survived by sons: Tony McKnight (Jacquie) of Hallsville, Tim McKnight (Leanne) of Columbia, Alan Barnes (Valerie) of Columbia; daughters: Tina Chambers (Russell) of Columbia, Gail Bise (Frank) of Holts Summit; sister: Ruby McClellan (Jim) Carthage, Missouri; 8 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; 1 great great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother: Von McKnight.

Friends and family will be received from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September, 11, 2020 at Parker-Millard Funeral Services with a Graveside Service at 1:30 p.m. at Hawthorn Memorial Gardens in Jefferson City.

Memorial donations in his honor may be made to The Salvation Army, 1108 W. Ash St., Columbia, Missouri 65201.

Arrangements are under the direction of Parker-Millard Funeral Service and Crematory; 12 East Ash Street, Columbia, Missouri, 65203; (573) 449-4153. Condolences may be left

online for the family at [www.ParkerMillard.com](http://www.ParkerMillard.com)

# Events

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SEP

11

Visitation

10:00AM - 12:00PM

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Parker-Millard Funeral Service and Crematory

12 East Ash Street, Columbia, MO, US, 65203

SEP

11

Graveside Service

01:30PM

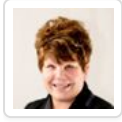
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Hawthorn Memorial Gardens

4205 Horner Road, Jefferson City, MO, US, 65109

# Comments

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“ Tim, I am sorry for the loss of your father. He was a great man. Sympathy and prayers to all.

Lesa Laux Wilson



Lesa Laux Wilson - September 11 at 07:13 PM

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“ One of a very rare breed: an absolute gentleman in the tire business. I enjoyed visiting with him when I stopped by the Columbia store!

Brent Murray-Titan Tire, retired

Brent Murray - September 10 at 06:05 PM

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“ Paul Bajier and the Bridgestone Team purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



Paul Bajier and the Bridgestone Team - September 10 at 12:35 PM

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“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



September 10 at 11:24 AM



“ McKnight Tire Employees purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



**McKnight Tire Employees** - September 10 at 10:55 AM

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“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



September 10 at 09:47 AM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



September 10 at 09:46 AM

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“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



September 10 at 08:57 AM

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“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



September 09 at 08:06 PM

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“ Bob McCosh Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac purchased the Sentimental Dreams for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



**Bob McCosh Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac** - September 09 at 04:00 PM

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“ Matt Hooper and Bridgestone Team purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



**Matt Hooper and Bridgestone Team** - September 09 at 03:21 PM

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“ the staff of Boone Quarries and Columbia Ready Mix purchased the Beautiful Whisper for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



**the staff of Boone Quarries and Columbia Ready Mix** - September 09 at 02:33 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



September 09 at 01:26 PM

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“ The McClellan Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of R. Ward McKnight.



**The McClellan Family** - September 09 at 09:56 AM

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“ I am so very sorry, Tony, that you lost your Father. I pray The Lord will comfort you in this time of great sorrow. GOD BLESS

**Mary Player** - September 08 at 09:07 PM

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“ Ward, you were a very wise man and business owner. I learned many valuable life lessons while working for McKnight Tire, which I will never forget. You were a true visionary of what a boss is and appreciated how you treated your customers and employees with nothing but respect. I am deeply saddened of your passing, and Thank You for allowing me the opportunity to be a part of your wonderful company. God Bless You And Your Family during this difficult time. May You Rest In Peace.

Sincerely,

Ron Lee

**Ron Lee** - September 08 at 08:10 PM



“ I have just learned of Ward's passing and so saddened by it. I did not get to know him as I would have liked to but my husband (his brother) talked about him a lot and dearly loved him. I know that he is with Von now and the other family members gone on. May you rest in peace Ward and we will all see you soon. Love you and your family. NAOMI McKnight

