



## Fred D. Watkins

March 25, 1942 - May 10, 2018

East Stone Gap, VA

Fred D. Watkins, 76, passed away Thursday (May 10, 2018) at his home.

He was born in Imboden, VA, lived in Bluefield, VA for over 32 years and had resided in East Stone Gap since 2009. He was a retired Communications Supervisor with Norfolk/Southern Railroad with over 30 years of service. Fred was proud to be a HAM Radio Operator, since he was 15 years old, his call letters being "K4YZY." During the Bay of Pigs incident of the early 1960's, Fred was recognized for his efforts to help sailors communicate from their ships to their loved ones at home. Fred loved to golf and he was a Christian.

He was preceded in death by a son, Johnny Watkins; his parents, Henry Lee Watkins and Lois E. (Robinson) Watkins; one brother, George Watkins; and one sister, Billy Jo Watkins.

Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Jenny Lee (Neely) Watkins; two sons, Michael Lee (Tzawe) Watkins of Fredericksburg, VA and Daniel Henry (Candise) Watkins of Roanoke, VA; one granddaughter, McKenzie Armstrong; two brothers, James (Joyce) Watkins of Bristol, TN and Glen Watkins of Fredericksburg, VA; and three nephews and a niece.

The family will receive friends from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. Monday in the Holding Funeral Home Chapel (17 E. 3rd St., N.) in Big Stone Gap. A memorial service will follow at 1:00 p.m. with Pastor Larry Rutherford officiating. Inurnment services will follow in the Powell Valley Memorial Gardens Mausoleum.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to the: Southern Appalachian Ronald McDonald House Charities, Inc., 418 N. State of Franklin Road, Johnson City, TN 37604, or the Muscular Dystrophy Association, P. O. Box 97075, Washington, D. C. 20090.

To view the obituary online and offer condolences, please visit [www.holdingfuneralhome.com](http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com).

Holding Funeral Home is serving Mr. Watkin's family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 14. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Holding Funeral Home, Inc.  
17 E. 3rd St., N.  
P. O. Drawer H  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219  
1-276-523-1470  
holdingfuneralhome@comcast.net  
<http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com>

## Memorial Service

MAY 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

Holding Funeral Home, Inc.  
17 E. 3rd St., N.  
P. O. Drawer H  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219  
1-276-523-1470  
holdingfuneralhome@comcast.net  
<http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com>

## Inurnment Service

MAY 14 (ET)

Powell Valley Memorial Gardens  
5650 Powell Valley Road  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219  
(276) 679-0030

# Tribute Wall



“ Fred D. Watkins

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ I worked with Fred at Norfolk Southern Communications Department for 8 years. My prayers are with his friends and family.

RIP  
Heston

HESTON COOKSEY - November 22, 2021 at 03:49 PM



“ Fred and I were great friends in high school. Funny, after all these years, I still remember his ham call #, K4YZY. Jenny, I am so sorry to hear about his passing. Please convey my condolences to all the family.

Linda Rogers Scarborough

Linda Rogers Scarborough - May 15, 2018 at 10:43 PM



“ I spent a lot of time at Fred & Jenny's house when I was a teenager. Hanging out with my best friend, their son, Johnny. They were like a 2nd family. I am so sad to hear of Fred's passing. Jenny, Mike, & Danny will be in my thoughts and prayers in this difficult time.

Shannon Stephens - May 13, 2018 at 08:10 PM

HS

“ JAMES, GLEN AND FAMILY

WILMA AND I ARE SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT FREDDIE. OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO EACH OF YOU. HE WILL BE MISSED BY ALL.

LOVE EACH OF YOU  
HAROLD AND WILMA SEYMOUR  
CLINTON, TENN.37716



---

**HAROLD SEYMOUR** - May 12, 2018 at 08:59 PM

MD

“ Sorry to hear of the passing of Fred. He will be deeply missed.

---

**Mountain Empire Dialysis** - May 12, 2018 at 07:49 PM

DF

“ Jenny and Family, Our hearts are broken, so so sorry to hear of Fred's passing! He was truly a wonderful and Precious friend to us! Donnie got so close to Fred in a very short time! Love and prayers to you, Jenny!!

---

**Donnie & Sharon Funk** - May 12, 2018 at 12:58 PM