



## Richard "Fred" Tucker Sr.

February 24, 1926 - December 30, 2018

Richard "Fred" Tucker, Sr., age 92, of Hampton, passed away on Sunday, December 30, 2018 at Hillview Rehab Clinic. He was the son of the late David and Callie Tucker. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Kate Snavelly; a sister, Helen Smith, two step-brothers, Hunter and Brian Tucker; and two step-sisters, Lessie and Ollie Mae.

In December 1944, Fred left high school to enlist in the Army. He served in the European Theater during World War II as an infantry rifleman in Company L, 14th Infantry, 71st Infantry Division in General Patton's 3rd Army, landing in France and fighting across Europe. He was awarded the combat Infantry Badge, Victory Medal WWII, European Theater Ribbon with 2 Bronze Stars and Good Conduct Medals.

Fred was a 1945 graduate of Elizabethton High School where he played football in 1943-1944. He was recruited for UT on a scholarship but turned it down to attend Milligan College.

Mr. Tucker had been the District Manager for American National Insurance and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Elizabethton. He enjoyed UT football games, Elizabethton Twins baseball games, fishing, hunting and gardening.

He is survived by his wife, Florence Tucker; one son, Freddie Tucker (Debbie); two daughters, Kathy Bradshaw (Bill) and Sandi Tucker, all of Memphis; one brother, David Tucker (Liz), of Elizabethton; four grandchildren, Ricky (Dana), Nathan, Jennifer (Kevin) and Lindsay; two great grandchildren, Kate and Knox; a step-son, Tyson Garrison (Jean); three step daughters; and five step grandchildren.

A service to celebrate the life of Richard "Fred" Tucker, Sr. will be conducted at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 in the Chapel of Peace at Tetrick Funeral Home, Elizabethton with Pastor Todd Hallman and Rev. Tyson Garrison (step-son) officiating. Music will be provided by Jerry Barnett. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until

7:00 PM in the funeral home chapel, prior to the service on Wednesday.

The graveside service will be conducted at 11:00 AM on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at Happy Valley Memorial Park with military honors to be accorded by the Carter County Honor Guard. Active pallbearers will be Alvin Woodby, Terrell McClain, Jerry Barnett, Jerry Harper, Carroll Lowe, Tommy Lewis, Kermit Smith and grandsons Nathan Bradshaw and Ricky Tucker. Those wishing to attend the service are asked to meet at Tetrick Funeral Home at 10:15 AM on Thursday, to go in procession.

The family would like to express a heartfelt thanks to the staff of the VA Hospital, Hillview Rehab, the doctors and staff of the Johnson City Medical Center, Sycamore Shoals Hospital and especially all the doctors, nurses and CNAs at Hillview Rehab.

Those who prefer memorials in lieu of flowers, may make donations to First Baptist Church, 212 East F Street, Elizabethton, TN 37643 or to your favorite charity.

Online condolences may be shared with the family on our website, [www.tetrickfuneralhome.com](http://www.tetrickfuneralhome.com). Mr. Tucker and his family are in the care of Tetrick Funeral Home, Elizabethton, office 423-542-2232, service line information 423-543-4917.

# Cemetery

---

## Happy Valley Memorial Park

2708 Elizabethton Hwy.  
Johnson City, TN, 37601

# Events

---

**JAN 2** Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM

---

Tetrick Funeral Home - Elizabethton  
211 North Riverside Drive, Elizabethton, TN, US,  
37644

**JAN 2** Celebration of Life 07:00PM

---

Tetrick Funeral Home - Elizabethton  
211 North Riverside Drive, Elizabethton, TN, US,  
37644

**JAN 3** Interment 11:00AM

---

Happy Valley Memorial Park  
2708 Elizabethton Hwy., Johnson City, TN, US, 37601

# Comments

---



“ My condolences to Sandi, Freddie, Kathy and the extended family on the loss of your father. He is such a cherished memory of my childhood growing up on Baldwin. Many hours were spent in the Tucker household and your father was a huge part of the fondest times we spent as neighbors. My thoughts and prayers to all of you as you navigate this difficult time in your life. Rest in Peace Mr. Tucker.

Carolyn Clements Arch  
Winter Springs, FL

Carolyn Clements Arch - January 02 at 09:00 PM

---



“ Dennis Dugan  
an hour ago

In the first 20 years of his life Mister Tucker certainly had experienced enough football locker rooms, boot camp barracks , troop trains, and combat to merit some occasional peaceful solitude.

His gentle and fun spirit, however, was too big a draw to prevent Big Fred's Baldwin Avenue den from constant invasion by throngs of "spirited" youth (myself included") converging uninvited and spending hours as this Gentle Giant playfully presided from his chair strategically positioned in the southwest corner.

Our entree to the Tuckers was their "Later in Life April Fool's Day" baby Kathy "Mac Truck Tuck" Tucker (Bradshaw). Fred and General Patton swept through Europe to defeat the Hun in 1945, but this was small potatoes compared to the havoc Kathy and her entourage brought in the 70's.

Big Fred not only tolerated us, he truly befriended us. Often Kathy would return home (from god-knows-what) surprised to find Fred holding court, sharing his subtle sarcastic humor. Sure, we did not mind having Kathy around (her own house) but the fact that idiot teenagers were drawn to the Tuckers-sans-Kathy is certainly a demonstration of the love and affection we had.

I'm not sad Fred died. I think that's some kind of rule to which we are all obliged. I am grateful and honored to count Mister Tucker as as cherished friend.

Here's to Big Fred on a live well-lived!

Dennis Dugan

Dennis Dugan - January 02 at 12:14 PM

---



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard "Fred" Tucker Sr..



January 01 at 11:32 PM

---



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard "Fred" Tucker Sr..



January 01 at 08:29 PM

---



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Richard "Fred" Tucker Sr..



January 01 at 07:34 PM

---



“ So sorry to hear of his passing. Although it was long ago, (early 1970's) I have pleasant memories of Uncle Fred, Aunt Kate & Kathy visiting us in Michigan and then going on to see Niagara Falls. I know your loss is difficult and I am praying your memories will comfort you.

Bette Snavelly Roberts

**Bette & Dave Roberts** - January 01 at 07:03 PM



“ In the first 20 years of his life Mister Tucker certainly had experienced enough football locker rooms, boot camp barracks , troop trains, and combat to merit some occasional peaceful solitude.

His gentle and fun spirit, however, was too big a draw to prevent Big Fred's Baldwin

Avenue den from constant invasion by throngs of "spirited" youth (myself included") converging uninvited and spending hours as this Gentle Giant playfully presided from his chair strategically positioned in the southwest corner.

Our entree to the Tuckers was their "Later in Life April Fool's Day" baby Kathy "Mac Truck Tuck" Tucker (Bradshaw). Fred and General Patton swept through Europe to defeat the Hun in 1945, but this was small potatoes compared to the havoc Kathy and her entourage brought in the 70's.

Big Fred not only tolerated us, he truly befriended us. Often Kathy would return home (from god-knows-what) surprised to find Fred holding court, sharing his subtle sarcastic humor. Sure, we did not mind having Kathy around (her own house) but the fact that idiot teenagers were drawn to the Tuckers-sans-Kathy is certainly a demonstration of the love and affection we had.

I'm not sad Fred died. I think that's some kind of rule to which we are all obliged. I am grateful and honored to count Mister Tucker as as cherished friend.

Here's to Big Fred on a live well-lived!

Dennis Dugan

**Dennis Dugan** - January 02 at 11:04 AM