



## Louis "Sonny" Bowen

August 18, 1943 - June 20, 2024

Sonny Bowen, age 80, of Gardendale, AL passed away on June 20th, 2024.

He is preceded in death by parents, Reverend Louis P. Bowen and Lois Bowen; sister, Patsy Morrison. Sonny was married to the love of his life, Joan Koons Bowen for 61 years, with whom he shared four children: Sonya Bowen Austin, Sophia Bowen, Shea Bowen-Smith (Brian), and John-Eric Bowen (Natalie). Six grandchildren: Jona Bowen-Smith, Mykal, Sophie, Lola, Brooks, and Lane Bowen. They were the joy of his life. Sonny is also survived by his brother, Sammy Bowen (Dianne), and sister, Deborah Bowen, and a host of nieces and nephews who he dearly loved.

Sonny began his career at Delta Airlines and retired after 36 years as an MD88 coordinator. He later worked part time for the City of Gardendale for 19 years. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force. He dreamed from a child of working in aviation which was his passion, he also enjoyed hunting, fishing, weekends at the lake, snow skiing, and watching Alabama Football (Roll Tide) with his family and friends. You could always catch him and his family singing country songs on the balcony of Edgewater every summer.

He loved just about everyone he ever met and they of course loved him just as much. But most

importantly he loved his family and will be dearly missed by all of them. Sonny was a member of Gardendale First Baptist Church for 44 years and loved his church family.

The funeral service to honor his life will be held at Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 2:00. The family will receive guests for two hours prior to the service time. Burial will follow in Oakwood Memorial Gardens. Reverend Mark Harrison will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, family request donations be made to Gardendale First Baptist Church Children's Ministry.

The family would like to extend our gratitude for the excellent care provided by UAB- MCCU and Palliative Care.

Pallbearers for the service will be: John-Eric Bowen, Jona Bowen Smith, Sam Bowen, Brian Bowen Smith  
Curt Jarvis, Wade Bennet, Dennis Hand and Jeff Brooks. Honorary Pallbearers are Danny Hearn, Daniel Hearn, Derek Hearn, Chris Renshaw, Greg Brooks, Chuck Belcher and Lyle Arrington.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Memorial Gardens

2100 Moncrief Rd  
Gardendale, AL 35071

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 25. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home  
2214 Decatur Highway  
Gardendale, AL 35071  
(205) 631-8810  
gardendalefuneralhome2@gmail.com

## Funeral Service

JUN 25. 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home  
2214 Decatur Highway  
Gardendale, AL 35071  
(205) 631-8810  
gardendalefuneralhome2@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

BN

“ I just heard about Sonny’s passing. I’m so sorry I was out of the state and didn’t know sooner. He was a great friend and has a wonderful family. My sincere condolences to Joan, Sonya, Sophia, Shea and John-Eric.

Bill Noble - July 01, 2024 at 08:52 PM

RA

“ So sorry! Your hearts must be very heavy!  
Praying for all your Family. May God give comfort and peace. So thankful that Sonny is completely healed now. Y’all will see him again one day.

Randy Akers - June 28, 2024 at 06:58 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home - June 25, 2024 at 10:10 AM

SF

“ Spendlove & Herwick Families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.



Spendlove & Herwick Families - June 24, 2024 at 01:43 PM

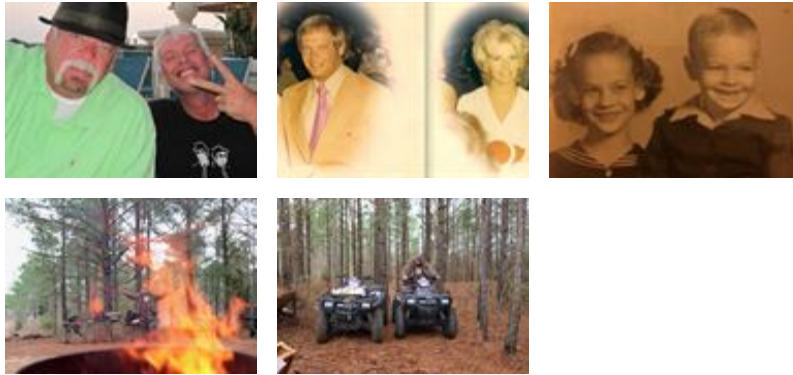
SF

“ Spendlove & Herwick Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.

Spendlove & Herwick Families - June 24, 2024 at 01:43 PM



“ 183 files added to the album LifeTributes



Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home - June 24, 2024 at 11:34 AM

TH

“ The Hearn's purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.



The Hearn's - June 24, 2024 at 11:12 AM

TH

“ The Hearn's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.

The Hearn's - June 24, 2024 at 11:12 AM

JO

“ Not enough words to explain our sadness over the passing of our kind, gentle and caring friend, Sonny. Always there for me and Greg at some of the lowest times and we are forever grateful to he, Joan and the girls. Love and lots of prayers for Joan and the girls, as well as the rest of the family. Love, Joyce, Steve and Gregory Wayne Tanner

Joyce - June 23, 2024 at 12:27 PM

HI

“ Our sincere sympathy at Sonny's passing on to Glory. I knew him as Lou as we work together at Delta's Atlanta Line Maintenance. Always cheerful and always a helping hand. I am looking forward to running into him on the streets of Gold. Loved you all. Harry & Anita Ivey

Harry & Anita Ivey - June 23, 2024 at 11:33 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.



June 23, 2024 at 08:40 AM

JB

“ From: Jim & Sue Burress planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.

Jim & Sue Burress - June 23, 2024 at 08:40 AM

DH

“ Dr. Minh, Carol and Bella Huynh purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.



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**Dr. Minh, Carol and Bella Huynh** - June 22, 2024 at 10:22 AM

DH

“ Dr. Minh, Carol and Bella Huynh planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.

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**Dr. Minh, Carol and Bella Huynh** - June 22, 2024 at 10:22 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.



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June 21, 2024 at 05:01 PM

MM

“ Marco and Sara Montalvo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis "Sonny" Bowen.

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**Marco and Sara Montalvo** - June 21, 2024 at 05:01 PM

EI

“ To Joan and the rest of Sonny's family I want to say that you are all in my prayers!!! As a kid I always thought that Sonny the most handsome cousin I had!!!! As I grew into an adult, I also realized that he was also a giving, loving man. He loved his family sooo much and enjoyed traveling to visit with his girls!!!!

My Daddy was Sonny's Daddy's brother and Sonny & Joan were so great to visit him and Mother. Unfortunately we did not see each other except at family funerals, but I did enjoy following him on Facebook.

I know that Sonny is in Heaven rejoicing that his body is whole again. He will be missed by all of us who loved & respected him!!!

Joan, I will be praying special prayers for you!!!!

God Bless each of you!!  
Ellen Bowen Ireland

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**Ellen Bowen Ireland** - June 21, 2024 at 02:06 PM

JB

“ To my once Brother-In-Law, Sonny. Shoot straight and may Peace be with you forever. JimDaddy

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**James Burress** - June 21, 2024 at 12:49 PM