



## Dotson Collins

January 24, 1928 - November 11, 2022

Dotson Collins, age 94 passed away Friday, November 11, 2022, at Countryside Assisted Living, Huntsville, Arkansas.

He was born January 24, 1928, in Boston, Arkansas, the fourth of twelve children to Reverend William Harrison Collins and Rosie Lea Williams Collins. He was preceded in death by his parent; his wife of 68 years, Mildred Johnson Collins; three brothers Frank Collins, Walker Collins, and Floyd Collins; and three sisters, Cleo Thurston, Billie Marrs, and Virginia Schaefer.

Dotson is survived by his children, Barbara Mitchell and husband Jerry of Harrison, Arkansas; his son Ted Collins and wife Andrea of Farmington, Arkansas. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Beau Collins and Jessica of Farmington, Skyler Collins and Cynthia of Williamson, Georgia, Anne Mitchell of Harrison, and Justin Mitchell and Lauren of Mokena, Illinois. He is also survived by nine great-grandchildren. In addition, he is survived by a brother, Ben Collins of Springdale, Arkansas; sisters Susie Atchely of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Ethel Taylor (Troy) of Elkins, Arkansas, Sarah Petersen of Entiat, Washington, and Melba Collins, of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Dotson led a life of service, first in the U.S. Armed Services. Following his induction into the military he was assigned as a military policeman with the Occupational Forces in Japan. Upon discharge, he returned to Arkansas,

married Mildred and they moved to Washington State where he worked in the fruit and timber industry for several years. They returned to Arkansas and bought a farm on Holman Creek near Huntsville in 1961.

He served as a USDA State Executive Director under President Ronald Reagan, President George H. W. Bush and President George W. Bush. During his time as Executive Director, he was recognized with the Administrator's Award.

He devoted his life to helping Arkansas. The list of state government positions he has held under both Governor Winthrop Rockefeller and Governor Mike Huckabee included being Labor Commissioner; Director of the Food Stamp Commodity Division; Policy Advisor for Agriculture; Veterans and Military Affairs; and Environmental and Rural Development. He was a devout Christian and served as President of his church's General Council for 30+ years.

The family will receive friends 5:00 PM-7:00 PM, Friday, November 18, 2022, at Brashears Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 10:00 AM, Saturday, November 19, 2022, at Brashears Funeral Home with Loren Collins officiating. Pallbearers will be Beau Collins, Skyler Collins, Justin Mitchell, Robert Gibson, Jim Steele, and Jason Collins. Honorary pallbearers will be David Schaefer, Bobby Steele, Donnie Schaefer, Mike Taylor, Mike Thurston, Doug Petersen, Scott Schaefer, Troy Taylor and Josh Collins. Interment will immediately follow services at Farmington Cemetery, Farmington, Arkansas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Christian Union Youth Camp at 4264 E Lawndale Drive, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701; or Venus Church at 1962 Madison 3345, Witter, Arkansas 72776.

The family wishes to express their gratitude and appreciation for the loving

and kind care he received at Countryside Assisted Living. Services are entrusted to Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory of Huntsville.

# Cemetery Details

## Farmington Cemetery

North Double Springs Road  
Farmington, AR 72730

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

NOV 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory  
509 North Gaskill Street  
Huntsville, AR 72740  
(479) 738-2123  
<https://www.brashearsfuneralhome.net/>

## Funeral Service

NOV 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory  
509 North Gaskill Street  
Huntsville, AR 72740  
(479) 738-2123  
<https://www.brashearsfuneralhome.net/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory created a Webcast in memory of Dotson Collins*



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**Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.** - November 16, 2022 at 03:58 PM

SS

*He was a good man. He was always good to me and always my friend. I know Barbara and Ted will miss him.*

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**Sam Savage** - November 17, 2022 at 09:28 AM

CG

“ *You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Charles and Betty Jo Gurley** - November 18, 2022 at 06:15 PM

MH

“*Dotson was an American original! As the "senior" staff member in the Governor's office, he was not just beloved by all, but he was the "go-to grandfather" for sage advice, country wisdom, and decades of government experience and practical ideas. His "Dotson-isms" will live with all of us forever! I hope someone wrote them down and will make a book someday from them. A memorable description of his I'll never forget was his assessment of a particular piece of legislation being proposed that he deemed as "weak as cat pee." Just like Jimmy Durante, he "had a million of them!" Everyone loved Dotson. EVERYONE. I cherish his memory. I stand grateful for his love of the military. And I stand in awe of his wisdom and Christian witness. May his family be comforted that his life mattered. REALLY mattered. He touched us all deeply, profoundly, and positively.*

Mike Huckabee - November 16, 2022 at 07:47 AM

AB

“*I always enjoyed visiting with Mr. Collins in the Federal Building. Rest In Peace, Sir.*

Arthur Paul Bowen - November 15, 2022 at 05:54 PM



“*Barbara and Ted and all family members, so sorry for your loss. Prayers and condolences with each of you.*

Alvin L Herrington - November 15, 2022 at 05:42 PM



“*Alvin L Herrington lit a candle in memory of Dotson Collins*



Alvin L Herrington - November 15, 2022 at 05:40 PM

JE

“ *What a faithful Follower of Jesus! A leader of leaders. Even though we often disagreed, those differences never divided us because of our shared commitment to follow Jesus better. "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints." (see Ps 116)*

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**Jim Eschenbrenner** - November 15, 2022 at 02:25 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dotson Collins.*



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November 15, 2022 at 01:11 PM

CS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Cherry L. Smith** - November 15, 2022 at 12:54 PM

LO

“ *Lea (Calico) Officer lit a candle in memory of Dotson Collins*



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**Lea Ann (Calico) Officer** - November 15, 2022 at 10:34 AM



“ *Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of Dotson Collins.*



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November 15, 2022 at 10:29 AM