



## Orla Whitaker

June 27, 1939 - September 24, 2018

Orla Whitaker, 79, of Berry, KY, passed away on Monday, September 24, 2018, at his home. Born on June 27, 1939 in Harrison County, KY, he was a son of the late Arthur Clark and Lizzie Earle Courtney Whitaker. He was a member of the Berry Baptist Church Orla worked as a custodian for Northside Elementary for 39 years and 5 years for the Board Of Education He worked as a mechanic for Fuller Ford in Falmouth, ky. and as a Tobacco farmer Drafted into the U.S. Army, Orla faithfully served his country during the Vietnam War and Berlin Crisis. He married Helen Jean Billiter, and his dear wife survives his passing.

From the age of 17, Orla worked with the Berry Volunteer Fire Department, serving as Fire Chief for 45 years, until his retirement in November of 2017 after 61 years of service. He was mayor for Berry, ky for 8 years serving 2 terms

Two daughters: Patricia Diane Fisher of Goshen, OH and Teresa Lynn Tumey of Berry; one son, Billy Ray Whitaker of Berry, KY ; 7 grandchildren: McKindree Jarrod Perrin, Brittany Lynn Murphy, Jarrod Wayde Garrison, Justin Dale Cole, Kristyn Fisher, Dustyn Fisher, and Austin Tumey; 14 great grandchildren: Braxton Carter, Freya Lynn, Kelsey, Kayla Jamie, Tanum, Alex, Colton, Jayden, Brentley, Keryssa, Great great grandchildren Roman, Aryreh, and Brayella; two sisters: Bonnie Milner and Jo Ella Cope, both of Berry; two brothers: Arthur Layne Whitaker of Berry and Allen Whitaker of Butler; and a host of extended family and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his great great grandson, Bryson.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 28, 2018 at the Woodhead Funeral Home, Berry. The visitation will be from 5-8:00 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home. Interment will take place in the Pythian Grove Cemetery, Berry with full military honors by the Hardin- Browning Post #109. The Last Call will be conducted by the Berry Volunteer Fire Department.

Memorials are suggested to the Berry Fire Department: 103 S. Second Street, Berry, KY 41003

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.woodheadfuneralhome.com](http://www.woodheadfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Pythian grove Cemetery

Hwy 1032  
Berry, KY

# Previous Events

## Viewing

SEP **27**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Woodhead Funeral Homes, Memorials & Cremation Service - Berry  
106 Main Street  
Berry, KY 41003  
(859) 234-5232  
[office@woodheadfuneralhome.com](mailto:office@woodheadfuneralhome.com)

## Funeral

SEP **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Woodhead Funeral Homes, Memorials & Cremation Service - Berry  
106 Main Street  
Berry, KY 41003  
(859) 234-5232  
[office@woodheadfuneralhome.com](mailto:office@woodheadfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

KW

“ One of the nicest people I've ever known. He knew my brother and I, and our mother Mary Elizabeth Nagel Hall.

---

**Kristy Whalen** - August 09, 2024 at 11:13 AM

JS

“ I would like to express my most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Mr. Whitaker, Mrs. Helen, Teresa, Brittany, and Justin. He was a true inspiration to me as a young Northsider. His love, compassion and kindness towards myself as well as others would far surpass most. I find comfort knowing he's now home, free of all pain and infirmity, smiling down upon us. Until we meet again my good friend rest easy. Jarrod Stephens

---

**Jarrod Stephens** - September 27, 2018 at 08:47 PM

KD

“ Bobby and I both remember Orla from Northside when our girls attended school there. Always smiling and cutting up with the girls. We lost our Jen 3 yrs ago but I am sure she and Orla are catching up on special memories...Prayers for Teresa and family. May God comfort you through this difficult time.

---

**Kathy & Robert Dennis** - September 26, 2018 at 08:46 PM

MR

“ One of Harrison Co's Finest. Mayor you will be missed. Thanks for being my friend. Coach Mike Reitz

---

**Mike Reitz** - September 26, 2018 at 11:40 AM

DW

“ My sympathy in the passing of Mr. Whitaker. I remember him being so active and supportive of “everything Berry.” Super nice man. I regret not being able to be there Friday for the military honors as we at Post 6 are called upon—am away. Thank you, Chief, for your service to your Country and your Community. Don Wells

Don Wells - September 26, 2018 at 10:15 AM

JC

“ Sorry to read of Orla’s passing. Knew him as janitor at Northside School when my children went there, & working with him through the school system. Sympathy for the family.  
Joyce Clifford

joyce Clifford - September 25, 2018 at 06:16 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Orla Whitaker.



September 25, 2018 at 02:26 PM

TM

“ Orla is one of the most humble, kind and giving people I know. His love for family, friends and community were quite obvious. He talked the talk and walked the walk. You will be greatly missed my friend.

Terry McDuffey - September 25, 2018 at 11:00 AM

DL

“ When I think of Berry, I think of Orla Whitaker..He was always there..Always helping...with anything and everything...Everyone will sure miss him..



---

**Deb Lake** - September 24, 2018 at 06:03 PM

BB

“ I guess i have knows Orlie most of my entire life. He was always nice and sweet. Prayers for the family, He is not suffering anymore, no more pain.  
Love you all  
Bobbie Sue Nichols Collier Bickers

---

**Bobbie Bickers** - September 24, 2018 at 02:39 PM

CH

“ I met Chief Whitaker 15 years ago and what man he was. He went out of his way to check on me when i lost my wife 2 years ago. I have the upmost respect for him and what he has done in the fire service. To the family i tried to get there and see him but he was finally resting. My prayers will be with all of the family during this difficult time. Rest assure no more pain or sickness. Chief thank you for who you were to me and the blessings. R.I.P. my friend, we will take it from here. Chief Helms, Stamping Ground Fire Dept.

---

**CHUCK HELMS** - September 24, 2018 at 02:03 PM

WJ

“ Went to Berryschool with Orla sorry to hear of his passing prayers for family

---

**William (Billy) Withers Jones** - September 24, 2018 at 01:53 PM