



## Phill Knott

May 31, 1939 - January 1, 2026

Phill Knott was born May 31st, 1939, to Milton and Julia (Dishman) Knott in Viburnum, MO. Phill passed away on January 1st, 2026, at the age of 86.

After graduating from Monett High School, he began his career with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) in construction retiring as Resident Engineer on March 1st, 2011, with 52 years of dedicated service where he was respected for his strong work ethic and commitment to public service. He also proudly served in the United States Navy beginning in 1962, honoring his country with dedication and pride. Phill was a longtime member of the Willow Springs Presbyterian Church, where he faithfully served as an elder, reflecting his strong values and dedication to service. Deeply committed to his community, Phill was a Mason, Shriner (Rajah of Laclede County & HOST Shrine Clubs), and Rotarian. He served as president of the Lebanon Cemetery Board for over 30 years and was president of the Willow Springs Community Foundation for several years. He also served on the Willow Springs Senior Housing Board and was a member of the Willow Springs City Council for eight years. In 2012, Phill was honored as Howell County Republican of the Year. One of Phill's passions was attending the National Final Rodeo (NFR) with his good friend Bill Otravovec for over the past 40 years. He also enjoyed flying his Mooney aircraft and driving his corvette which he spent countless hours restoring using all original parts that he had purchased throughout the years. Above all, his favorite thing was spending

time with his family.

Phill was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Mary; his daughter, Rachel (Brad) Carey and his granddaughter, Morgan (Jeremy) Hall. He is further survived by his sister, Eveline Jackson and his uncle, Jessie Dishman; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Bill and Barbara Easley and sister-in-law, Mariann Dishman; nephews, Wayne Land and Charlie Easley; nieces, Sonja (Tom) Dyer and Debbie (David) Garner and their families.

Preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Charlie and Earl Knott, Dearll Dishman; sister, Peggy Knott and nephew, Robert Land.

A graveside memorial service for Phill will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Willow Springs City Cemetery with Pastor Diane Cooke officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Willow Funeral Home, LLC. Online condolences may be left at [www.willowfuneralhome.com](http://www.willowfuneralhome.com)

Phill will be remembered for his lifelong service, leadership, and unwavering dedication to his family, faith, and community. His legacy will continue to live on through the many lives he touched.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Funeral Service

JAN 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Willow Springs City Cemetery  
State Rte DD  
Willow Springs, MO 65793

# Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Phill Knott.

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February 26 at 09:39 AM



“ Bud and Susie York purchased the Serene Retre at for the family of Phill Knott.



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**Bud and Susie York** - January 09 at 09:30 PM



“ Bud and Susie York planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phill Knott.

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**Bud and Susie York** - January 09 at 09:30 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Phill Knott.



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January 04 at 07:04 AM

DS

“ *Phill was an incredible friend and one of the few people who accepted me when I moved to Willow Springs in 2007. We've had many special times together, many going to lunch at Los Amigos in Mtn Grove. His favorite saying was "You Fly, I'll Buy". Fly high my friend with clear skies and a strong tailwind!*

Dennis Sokol - January 03 at 01:14 PM

ME

*We were nextdoor neighbors in Lebanon back in the '70s. At the time I was the maintenance manager for the Empire Gas fleet of aircraft. Great neighbor. Mary our deepest sympathy on your loss.  
Mike and Mary Emory*

Michael Emory - January 07 at 02:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phill Knott.*



January 02 at 09:46 PM

TP

“ *The Puckett's purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Phill Knott.*



The Puckett's - January 02 at 07:35 PM

GK

“ *Glenna Kovac lit a candle in memory of Phill Knott*



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**Glenna Kovac** - January 02 at 06:58 PM