



## Herbert Swann Wilkinson

February 10, 1939 - January 20, 2026

Herbert Swann Wilkinson of Chestertown, Maryland away, January 20, 2026. He was 86.

Herbet was born in Washington, DC on February 10, 1939, to the late Herbert Arnold Wilkinson and Katherine (Stimson) Wilkinson. Herbert graduated from Montgomery Blair High School in 1957, then attended George Washington University and graduated in 1961 then continuing his education obtaining his master's degree in 1963, for Electrical engineering.

Herbert worked with Atlantic Research, then DECO Electronics, Westinghouse, Telcom and finally TASC (The Analytic Science Corp.) where he retired after 20 years. Herbet moved to Chestertown in 1999. Here he engaged in various clubs and was a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa member, Chestertown Lions Club and Christ United Methodist Church.

Herbert worked on the Christmas Basket Project and the Sultana Project as well as becoming a founding member for the Lions of Bluegrass.

Herbert is predeceased by his wife Kara Alkire Wilkinson, whom he married on January 14, 1989. In addition to his wife he was predeceased by his brother Frank Wilkinson and his wife Kathi.

He is survived by his daughter Kathryn Beth Cowan (Paul); sons Thomas Eugene Kernan, Herbet Stuart Wilkinson, Thomas Montrose Wilkinson (Stacy), and Douglas Trevor Wilkinson (Eileen) and 13 grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Chestertown Lions Club in honor of Herb.

A memorial service will be held Saturday June 20, 2026, at 11am at Fellows,  
Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home 130 Speer Road Chestertown, MD  
21620.

# Upcoming Events

## Memorial Service

JUN **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home  
130 Speer Road  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

TC

“ There's a lot to remember about my friend Herb. One of the best is the Lions of Bluegrass. They always played at our Men's Prayer Breakfast on the first Saturday in December and the ladies were invited. Herb's natural humor was on display as they played. They always ended with their keynote song "I'll Fly Away" and now Herb has "flown away" See you Herb. Tom

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**Tom Clark** - May 02 at 10:28 AM

JD

“ I spent many hours playing and singing bluegrass music with Herb. He was a good singer and dobro player . He was a wonderful person..

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**James E. DeLancey** - January 27 at 06:50 AM

FJ

“ Mr. Wilkinson, caring for you was one of those quiet blessings that stays with a person long after the days have passed. You carried yourself with a gentleness and a wisdom that made every moment feel meaningful. Even on the tougher days, you had a way of reminding everyone around you that patience, kindness, and a little humor can go a long way.

*Thank you for the conversations, the stories, and the trust you placed in those who cared for you. You left an imprint of dignity and strength that won't be forgotten. I'm grateful our paths crossed. You will be missed tremendously.*

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**Fantasia Johnson** - January 26 at 12:02 AM

PR

*Thank you for your beautiful tribute. It was perfect and will be cherished by those in Chestertown. 🙏*

**Phyllis Roberts** - January 29 at 08:34 AM

LC

*“Herb and Kay had the absolute best message on their answering machine. It went something like " You probably reached the wrong number but leave your name and number anyway, we like making new friends." I smiled every time I called them and it reminded me of Herb's terrific sense of humor. What a joyful way to be remembered.*

**Linda Carroll** - January 23 at 07:52 AM

JS

*“Jeanette Stubbs lit a candle in memory of Herbert Swann Wilkinson*



**Jeanette Stubbs** - January 22 at 04:09 PM

MW

*“Marian Walbert Wyble lit a candle in memory of Herbert Swann Wilkinson*



**Marian Walbert Wyble** - January 21 at 12:50 PM

PW

“*Herb and his wife Kay were faithful members of Christ United Methodist Church for many years. He was instrumental in changing the secretary and pastor's offices to our present Choir Room, scraping, painting, removal of walls, etc. Many will remember Herb as chair of our yearly "Cookie Walk".*  
*Our sincere sympathy to his dear family. Patsy and Larry Will*

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**Patsy Will** - January 21 at 11:45 AM