



## David Elder

December 19, 1948 - February 23, 2019

David Byron Elder, age 70, of Worthington, Ohio, passed peacefully on February 23, 2019 surrounded by his wife Ann and daughters Stephanie and Lauren.

David was the only child of Byron and Mildred Elder of Columbus. He graduated from Whetstone High School in 1966. He then attended Miami University where he met his wife, Ann, and received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. David was an active member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. He then went on to attend The Ohio State University where he received his Master of Arts in Public Administration.

David joined the City of Worthington in 1971 as an Administrative Assistant and was then named City Manager in 1981. He was a community visionary, a dedicated public servant and a leader who genuinely cared for the well being of the residents of Worthington. He oversaw tremendous growth throughout his years as City Manager and retired in 2007. He served 26 years as City Manager and was one of the longest serving City Managers in the state of Ohio upon retiring. He was a member of the Ohio City Management Association, the International City Management Association, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. He served as the President of OCMA for 2 years. Awards received include the 2001 William H. Anderson Award for Excellence in Public Service from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning

Commission; the Career Achievement Award from the Ohio City Management Association; the Career Development/Mentoring Award from the Ohio City Management Association; and the Outstanding Alumnus Award from The Ohio State University John Glenn School of Public Affairs.

David was an active member of the Dublin-Worthington Rotary since April 1, 1990 and was a member of the Greater Worthington Sertoma. He was also an active member of Maple Grove United Methodist Church since 1951.

David was a lifelong member at York Golf Club and enjoyed playing golf, tennis, softball and basketball. He loved being on the water, whether it was on his boat or at the beach on Sanibel Island, FL.

Above all, the time with his family was his greatest love. David is survived by his bride of 45 years Ann, daughters Stephanie (Patrick) Koors, Lauren (Adam) Roberts; grandchildren Magnus, Charlotte, Reed and Kate.

Contributions in lieu of flowers to Maple Grove United Methodist Church and Dublin-Worthington Rotary.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 3. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home  
515 High Street  
Worthington, OH 43085  
(614) 885-4006  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Visitation

MAR 3. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home  
515 High Street  
Worthington, OH 43085  
(614) 885-4006  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Visitation

MAR 4. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Maple Grove United Methodist Church  
7 West Henderson Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43214

## Funeral Service

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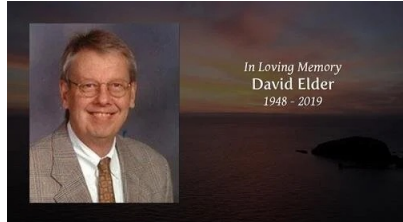
MAR 4. 10:00 AM (ET)

Maple Grove United Methodist Church  
7 West Henderson Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43214

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of David Elder*



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**Rutherford Funeral Homes** - March 01, 2019 at 02:40 PM



“ *David Elder*

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January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I am so sorry to learn of Dave's passing and that I missed the opportunity to pay my respects.*

*Pat Smith*

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**Patricia Smith** - March 12, 2019 at 11:50 AM

AS

“ Dear Anne and family, I was shocked and stunned to hear about David’s passing from a former Worthington Recreation Department Summer employee Chuck Curly. It had been many years since I last visited David at the Worthington City Hall while my family and I still lived in Dublin, Ohio.

My fond memories include: playing catch in the Elders side yard as neighbors on Chatham Road, working with David at the City, flying Anne and David to Don Scott Field from Springfield, Ohio plus golfing at York Temple Country Club. Wow, time sure does fly bye ! May God comfort your family during this time of your heart ache and loss knowing this life is not the end as Jesus has promised. Amen !

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**Allan Sandberg** - March 11, 2019 at 10:06 PM

JK

“ To Dave’s family,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with Dave while he was the City Manager on the train noise issue in Worthington. Dave was always positive and always with a big smile on his face. While retired, I enjoyed chatting with him at the Rec Center and the Farmer’s Market. A genuinely great man.

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**Judith Kimchi-Woods** - March 07, 2019 at 02:08 PM

KR

“ Dear Ann, Stephanie, and Lauren,  
Just wanted to say how sorry I am to hear of Dave’s passing. He was a wonderful man. It was a privilege for all of us at Maple Grove to know him and serve God alongside him for many years. He will certainly be missed.

Sincerely,  
Kathy Renick

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**Katherine Renick** - March 04, 2019 at 03:17 PM

PS

“ sorry to hear about Dave. I have good memories of him at Whetstone. Peggy McGreevy Schrappe

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**Peggy Schrappe** - March 04, 2019 at 11:42 AM

JS

“ I can share a few memories of the many. I also lived next door. One day David said let me install a communication device between our houses. So he did. From his bedroom to my bedroom David installed a can on his side and a can on my side. With string linking them together. A lot of times we would have shaving cream or water fights. We also played ping pong in his garage. For weeks at a time we would do nothing but play. I can remember another time we went to the family farm and shot ground hogs. It is no wonder David turned out to be a great guy because his mom and dad were super nice. It was a honor knowing him. Peace be with you and your family. Jim Sandberg WHS64.

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**Jim Sandberg** - March 03, 2019 at 07:49 PM

JB

“ *Ann and Family*

*Heard about Dave's passing last week while we were at Westwind I in Nassau*

*Got home late last evening and could not figure out a way to get to Worthington in time for the service.*

*Dave was not only a very good member of the city staff, but also a very good friend.*

*He served as a trusted advisor and a good sounding board. I visited him in his office on many occasions to get his advice and counsel while I was the City Manager.*

*He served the community well as Assistant/Planner/Zoning/HR and the Manager*

*My fondest memory was on his boat and the first time I tried water skiing.*

*It took several more sessions before being successfull.*

*I fondly remember his persistence and his joyful chuckling while watching me swallow half of that lake.*

*Special greetings and hugs*

*Jim Brimeyer*

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**Jim Brimeyer** - March 03, 2019 at 04:10 PM

CG

“ Sorry to hear about David's death at such a young age! We were next door neighbors when growing up on Chatham Rd. I (Cheryl) used to enjoy going over to David's as he seemed to have the newest gadgets around. One I remember in particular, was some round gizmo you filled with ice, put one end into a pop bottle and drank from the other end. Mom and I send our sympathy.  
Elizabeth(Betty Ann) Sandberg and Cheryl Sandberg Gray  
Fern Park, Florida

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Cheryl Gray - March 02, 2019 at 06:04 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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March 02, 2019 at 10:42 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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March 02, 2019 at 10:40 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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March 02, 2019 at 10:17 AM

GS

“ David was such a great guy, a wonderful husband and terrific father. He will be missed by so many. We share in your grief but know he is at peace.

*Georgia and Van Shirey*

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**Georgia and Van Shirey** - March 01, 2019 at 07:11 PM

TF

“ The Shirey Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of David Elder.



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**The Shirey Family** - March 01, 2019 at 07:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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March 01, 2019 at 02:50 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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March 01, 2019 at 02:36 PM

LG

“ To Mr. Elder's Family: I met him when I worked at the City of Dublin and he was always smiling and friendly. Our manager, Tim Hansley, always spoke highly of him and they had a mutual respect and friendship. I pray for the family in the coming days that God will comfort them and help them get through this terrible loss.

*Linda Gilliam*

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**Linda Gilliam** - March 01, 2019 at 12:27 PM

J(

“ A great guy. Professional, caring and effective He was such a pleasure to work with.

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**JOHN A POPIO, Exec. Dir. UMCH (retired)** - March 01, 2019 at 11:41 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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March 01, 2019 at 11:03 AM

JC

“ Peace be with you and yours, Ann. 🙏

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**Jean Claflin** - March 01, 2019 at 10:06 AM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of David Elder.*



February 28, 2019 at 10:08 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Elder.*



February 28, 2019 at 07:29 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of David Elder.*



February 28, 2019 at 04:14 PM



“ *Beth Masteller purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of David Elder.*



**Beth Masteller** - February 28, 2019 at 02:02 PM

NW

“ I am so saddened to learn of Dave's passing.

*I have so many fond memories of Dave at Whetstone High School but especially when he was a member of the Iguanas Band and all the fun we had.*

*He was absolutely the nicest guy, would do anything for you and always with a smile on his face.*

*My deepest sympathy for your loss.*

*Nancy Baer Wilson*

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**Nancy Baer Wilson** - February 28, 2019 at 01:29 PM

MK

“ *Dave will be missed by so many. He leaves a huge hole in the Worthington community. He and I shared numerous times during the earliest days of our careers. He was always warm and supportive of the Worthington Arts Council when we needed it most. I will miss his smile of welcome. Mary Keller, Past Director, Worthington Arts Council*

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**Mary Keller** - February 28, 2019 at 12:07 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Elder.*



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February 28, 2019 at 11:05 AM

JP

“ *May God give you peace Ann & your family on the passing of David. You will be in my prayers. Judy Podolski*

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**Judy Podolski** - February 27, 2019 at 09:39 PM

MM

“ *Prayers for the family. Dave was an outstanding City Manager and man. Enjoyed working with Dave when I was in Delaware. God bless!*

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**Michael Morgan** - February 27, 2019 at 09:23 PM

DS

“ *Dear Ann, Stephanie and Lauren-*

*I was so sad to learn of David's passing. My condolences go out to the entire Elder family and the Worthington community, which David loved so much. David was such a wonderful husband, a wonderful father, a truly engaged public servant, and such a fun friend. We remember all of the uniquely crazy times we had growing up together in our roles as municipal leaders while active in the Ohio City Management Association. What great memories. David was such a key part of that. He will be sorely missed.*

*With much love,*

*Dale Sugerman*

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**Dale Sugerman** - February 27, 2019 at 04:42 PM

CL

“ *Dave was such a great person. A true leader and always a gentleman. He helped make Worthington and parts surrounding a great place to live and work! May he rest in peace and our thoughts are with the Elder family.*

*Chip and Cathy Lothes*

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**Chip Lothes** - February 27, 2019 at 12:47 PM



“ *19 files added to the album City of Worthington remembers David Elder*



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**Anne Brown** - February 27, 2019 at 09:44 AM

DM

“ *My condolences to the Elder family and friends. My late wife and I purchased our first home in Worthington in early 1981 and Mr. Elder was Worthington to me. I remember he was extremely pleasant in the class I took about the City of Worthington and it's workings. I will always remember his kindness and leadership. My heartfelt condolences to all.*

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**Doug Matthies** - February 27, 2019 at 08:44 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of David Elder.*



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February 26, 2019 at 10:20 PM



“ *Dear Ann, Stepanie and Lauren,  
We have so many good memories of the summer OCMA meetings and watching our families grow up together over the years. Dave was such a special guy. He was just fun to be around, whether at a board meeting, on a basketball court or on the golf course. He was an outstanding city manager and an even better friend to all who knew him.  
Our heartfelt condolences to all of you.  
Greg & Cathy Horn*

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**Greg Horn** - February 26, 2019 at 08:32 PM



“ *We are sorry to hear of Dave's passing and send his family our most sincere condolences. Dave was a good friend from little league baseball days, through high school, and throughout his distinguished career. Dave will truly be missed by many.*

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**Sharon and Ned Kirby** - February 26, 2019 at 07:47 PM

BB

“ Dear Family,

*I had the honor of meeting Dave through our City of Dublin City Manager/Tim Hansley. I grew up in Worthington and always considered myself a loyal Worthington Cardinal booster. I went to St Mike's for 8 years. Dave used to come up to Dublin to see Tim and would make a point of saying "Hi!" because we both shared a true love of all things Worthington.*

*I always reminded him that I applied for a Rec job in Worthington and was not chosen as the preferred candidate. My dear colleague, Linda Chambers was hired and I was so happy for her, She was the right choice! I moved to Southern California, got hired by LA City, met the love of my life and 11 years later got hired by The City of Dublin.*

*Dave was an exemplary human being who loved his family and Worthington, Ohio.*

*Here I am, retired and subbing in the Worthington Schools. We all circle back home...*

*RIP Dave, you were an exemplary public servant and a great City Manager! Worthington, Ohio lost a great man.*

*Respectfully,*

*Barbara Cody Burkholder*

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**Barbara Burkholder** - February 26, 2019 at 05:19 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David Elder.



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February 26, 2019 at 03:58 PM

NH

“*Dave Elder always took the time to acknowledge everyone he met along the way. He was so instrumental in getting things done in Worthington. He will surely missed. Anne please know that my thoughts are with you and May God's Love be with you and your family.*

*Nancy Herl*

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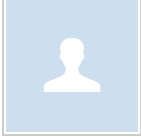
**nancy herl** - February 26, 2019 at 12:25 PM

RL

“*To Dave's family: we never met but I want you to know that Dave was one the most honest men I ever met and was one of the men who I was so fortunate to meet in my life who had nothing but positive effects on me. He was the epitome of integrity and commitment to his profession and community. After my internship in 1992, I was always welcome to stop by and chat and he always had time to chat. I have so many wonderful memories of the summer of 1992, especially when he would say "Let's go look at the hole" meaning the new city hall basement. He trusted me with some significant projects that summer and I am so appreciative of his confidence. I just retired as a Captain from Pleasant Valley Fire District and I can tell you that his mentoring that summer definitely contributed to whatever positive effects I had in my fire department. I am sure that you will hear many similar stories and you will know, as I sure you do, that he had a tremendous, positive impact on many people's lives. My most sincere condolences to you. Robert Leonhard*

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**Robert Leonhard** - February 26, 2019 at 11:46 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of David Elder.*



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February 26, 2019 at 11:41 AM



“ *You were such a wonderful friend! We have many fond memories from our days at Dominion Jr High, to Whetstone high school; then a few business dealing while you were at the City of Worthington and I at AEP. Rest in Peace my friend... Barrie Brandt, whs66*

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**Barrie Brandt** - February 26, 2019 at 11:26 AM



“ *Dear Ann, Stephanie and Lauren I am devastated. All the memories we created between our families. The dinners the Christmas caroling.....If my girls weren't home...they were at your house and vice versa...He was Mr. Elder to me...I always thought he was a good man and a wonderful father.*

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**Elissa Oriti** - February 25, 2019 at 10:21 PM

RP

“ Ann Stephanie And Lauren well we love our Dave!! That’s what he is to us. Dave And I always shared the scoop, talked about politics or basketball and he loved to hear about Sarah and Michael— he encouraged me to get on the Worthington Personnel Review Board And He was so kind to Mark -always asking for his insight I’ve always been inspired by his devotion to you Ann —and his amazing daughters And he loved Magic the dog and Magic knew it Dave’s phone call to me telling me to buy 273 heischman was one of the best decisions we ever made I’m going to miss hearing “hi kids” whenever we were on the driveway We don’t have to say it but we will —We love you all and we will always love our Dave Rose mark sarah And Michael Pomeroy

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**rosemary and mark pomeroy** - February 25, 2019 at 08:54 PM

SG

“ So sorry to hear of Dave’s passing. I played drums with him in the band and orchestra at Whetstone High School. It was great to see him at our 50th reunion. Praying for comfort for his wife and his family. Stuart Grimstad

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**Stuart Grimstad** - February 25, 2019 at 07:34 PM

SM

“ We are so sorry to hear of Dave’s passing. Such a wonderful man. We will not be able to attend but our hearts and prayers are with you all.

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**sue and dave maxwell** - February 25, 2019 at 07:31 PM

FV

“ From Kathy and Tom Verne purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of David Elder.



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**From Kathy and Tom Verne** - February 25, 2019 at 05:15 PM

SL

“ Heartfelt sympathy from fellow members of the Rotary Club of Dublin-Worthington. We will miss his leadership, sense of humor, and friendship.



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**Shirley Lambert** - February 25, 2019 at 04:46 PM

DL

“ David was inspirational and committed to public service and improving the City of Worthington. He was a consummate professional. As a young person coming up in the profession, it was interesting to watch the City Manager humor between he, Rich King of Upper Arlington, and Tim Hansley of Dublin. Three professionals that made the three communities they worked for what they are today. David was a mentor to many and he will be missed.

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**Doug Lewis** - February 25, 2019 at 04:44 PM

MJ

“ David inspired a commitment to public service in the Worthington city staff -- they were always concerned to deliver the best service possible and that came from the model and example David set. A model professional whose example followed "Worthington Alumni" wherever their careers took them!

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**Martin Jenkins** - February 25, 2019 at 04:36 PM



“ Ann, Stephanie, Lauren and families.... David's friends and former co-workers at the City of Worthington are devastated with the loss of our former boss and mentor. As you know, he was much much more than a boss. He was like our work-Dad. Always caring, guiding, encouraging, and loving the Worthington community so much. We have posted a tribute to him on our website and I hope it brings you comfort to know how much he meant to all of us. <https://worthington.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=710> Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you. ((hugs)) ~ Anne AKA "E" Brown

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**Anne Brown** - February 25, 2019 at 04:35 PM

DR

“ Its hard to overstate the impact that Dave had on the Worthington community and how it looks today. From the expansion of the Recreation Center, to taking oversight responsibilities of the fire service to ensure the community had adequate fire and EMS coverage, and the construction of City Hall and the Senior Center, Dave helped shape Worthington in ways that will be felt for decades to come. On a personal level he also gave me my first opportunity to work in local government, something I will forever be grateful for because it changed the course of my professional life. In conversations he was thoughtful and insightful. Every time I saw him he had words of encouragement to share that left me wishing that we would run into each other more often.

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**Dan Ralley** - February 25, 2019 at 01:04 PM

TB

“*Dave was the consummate gentleman, unflappable, honorable and sincerely cared about people. I had the honor of working with Dave on various City projects, and we were both members of Dublin-Worthington Rotary. His ever-present smile, calm manner and kind heart will be missed by all who knew him. Dave, you were a bright light in a world that needs much more light. While we mourn your loss, we know you are - most certainly - hearing "Well done, my good and faithful servant." Blessings to your family - Theresa DiNardo Brown*

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**Theresa DiNardo Brown** - February 25, 2019 at 11:42 AM

SW

“*We will miss Dave's friendly wave every time we got to see him. He was a great man and advocate for the community, a gentle soul, smart and humorous. We are very sorry for your loss and are nearby to support you. Your neighbors Brian and Susie.*

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**Susan Walker** - February 25, 2019 at 08:39 AM