



David E. Burnell

October 22, 2025

On Wednesday, October 22, 2025, after many years of courageously battling health complications, David Burnell passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 50 years, Karen Kierstead Burnell; their daughter, Heather Champagne; their son, Timothy Burnell and his wife, Rachael, and his two cherished granddaughters, Avery and Bristol, all of Hudson, NH

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Ruth Burnell of Hudson, NH, and his brother, William Burnell of Fort Myers, FL.

Before his health declined, Dave proudly owned and operated Burnell's Auto Restoration, a family business now carried on by his son, Tim. He built many lasting friendships within the automotive community and was respected for his remarkable skill, craftsmanship, and generosity.

Dave had a deep love for animals and a special bond with his many four-legged friends. Above all, he loved his family unconditionally and found his greatest happiness in the time they spent together.

Some of his favorite memories included days spent with Karen in the Gate

City Corvette Club, restoring Heather and Tim's 1970 Camaros with them, and fishing with Avery on Sebago Lake. Of his many adventures, two that stood out most were his cross-country road trip with Tim in his 1961 Corvette for the Hot Rod Power Tour and the family's unforgettable cruise to Alaska.

Dave will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who were fortunate enough to know him. His kindness, humor, and love will remain in their hearts forever. Until we cruise again!

Following cremation, a time of visitation will be held on Saturday, November 1st from 10:00am ~ 11:30am with a Service of Remembrance at 11:30am in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home on 50 Ferry Street in Hudson. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association in Dave's memory at www.diabetes.org

Previous Events

VISITING HOURS

NOV 1. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home Hudson, NH
50 Ferry Street
Hudson, NH 03051
(603) 882-9431
info@dumontsullivan.com

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

NOV 1. 11:30 AM (ET)

Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home Hudson, NH
50 Ferry Street
Hudson, NH 03051
(603) 882-9431
info@dumontsullivan.com

Tribute Wall



“ Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of David E. Burnell



Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes - October 25, 2025 at 11:10 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of David E. Burnell.



October 28, 2025 at 05:48 PM



“ RIP David. So many fond memories from back in the day hanging out at Hudson's Herbs!

Ken Roberts - October 27, 2025 at 10:09 AM



“ Karen,
I'm so sorry to hear of Dave's passing my condolences to you and your family.
Larry Arsenault Class of '72

Larry Arsenault - October 26, 2025 at 09:17 PM

FK

“ *Freddy King lit a candle in memory of David E. Burnell*



Freddy King - October 26, 2025 at 09:35 AM

FK

“ *So many memories over all these years and my heart goes out to my adopted family the love they have shown me over the years I am grateful for. I was blessed to have spent time fishing on Sebago with Dave. Finding the key to the pontoon was always interesting, Karen gave me a care package for him and off we would go - two grumpy old men. We talked for hours didn't catch fish but we had a great time. Imagine two old men both with bad vision trying to figure out how to get the fish finder to work - we never did but we laughed. I would throw out my #9 Rapala Dave told me I was going to scare the fish with it I said yup - right to your copper Mooselook. Coming back was always interesting you haven't lived until you've been with Dave docking the pontoon on the lift dock in a wind. I will miss him dearly.*

Freddy King - October 26, 2025 at 09:35 AM

MT

*Karen, I'm so sorry to hear of Dave's passing. Thankfully, it sounds like you have a great family and many happy memories to hold on to. Sending my thoughts and prayers to you and your entire family. With much love,
Melanie Hanlon Taylor
Alvirne Class of '73*

Melanie Hanlon Taylor - October 29, 2025 at 05:17 AM



*Karen and family,
So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you.
Deb Miller*

Deborah Miller - October 29, 2025 at 09:22 PM