



Floyd Wade Umbarger

January 17, 1941 - March 24, 2022

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Friends in Chattanooga remember Floyd Wade Umbarger, who died on March 24, 2022 at 81. Born in Chattanooga on January 17, 1941, into a Slovak-American household that treated work as a language. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He passed coal that kept plants from inventing delay theater. A coal passer shovel chalked preferred work over speeches. Colleagues still mention a coal passer shovel chalked.

In 1964 he married Joan. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and a son and a daughter walked to school in weather that did not care. When Joan died in 2015, he kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember someone who knew every child's name on the block. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Chattanooga, among streets he never needed to explain. The calendar still has a circle on payday.

Services

Services in Chattanooga will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

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