



## William Van Howenstine

April 29, 2024

William “Van” Howenstine passed away unexpectedly at the age of 59 on April 29, 2024. Born in Dallas, Texas on September 13, 1964 to the late Robert “Jack” Howenstine and Carol Ann Gutherie-Howenstine. Survived by his beloved wife, Carrie Bennett; his loving children, Max and Lucie Howenstine; stepsons, Caleb Bateman and Jaden Holmes and his brothers, Rick Howenstine (Marie) and Mike Howenstine (Gina). Predeceased by his sister, Shelley Howenstine. Van, also known as Van the Snowball Man, was a fixture in the community throughout the Westbank and was well-known for his successful snowball business, which he started in the 1980s. An outgoing character who never met a stranger. Van also graciously opened his house to multiple animals who he cherished deeply. Van is fondly remembered as a loving husband and doting father who adored his son and daughter. After graduating from De La Salle High School in 1982, Van attended college at University of Holy Cross in Algiers followed by UNO, where he majored in political science. Van then traveled throughout Europe for several years where he continued his education. After returning to the United States, Van dedicated himself to his career and became a successful entrepreneur. Van’s Snowballs was formed and his business grew to encompass multiple locations within the Greater New Orleans area. Van truly loved his community and gave back every chance he could. He served as Clerk of Court for the Second City Court of Orleans Parish and remained involved in local politics until his death. The neighborhood of Algiers Point had a special place in Van’s heart and he

expressed this by providing the public with free snowballs each year for the annual Friendship Day block party.

Friends and family are invited to attend services on Sunday, May 19, 2024 at St. Philip's Episcopal Church located at 3643 Aurora Dr. in Algiers, LA.

Visitation will begin at 1:30 pm followed by the service at 2:30 pm. A reception will be held at Dry Dock Café located at 133 Delaronde St. in Algiers Point.

Cremation by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Avenue. Please visit [www.rhodesfuneral.com](http://www.rhodesfuneral.com) to the guestbook. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Avenue.

## Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Memorial Visitation

MAY **19**. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

St. Philip's Episcopal Church algier  
3643 Aurora Dr  
New Orleans, LA 70131  
(504) 394-2408

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ My condolences to the family, I have known Van since the 80's. We both attended Holy Cross College and Van was my running mate for student counsel. Over the years we keep in touch every so often. My prayers are with his family.

Jay Martin - May 22, 2024 at 06:56 AM

JB

“ Van was my very first friend when I moved to New Orleans in 2008.

I was was looking for a house to buy and met Van to show me one on Algiers Point. He surprised me with a gift of a Hubig Pie. I never forgot that gesture.

John Bowman

John Bowman - May 19, 2024 at 01:23 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of William Van Howenstine.



May 17, 2024 at 07:03 PM

KJ

“ Kat & Josh planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Van Howenstine.

Kat & Josh - May 17, 2024 at 07:03 PM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of William Van Howenstine.*



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May 17, 2024 at 12:15 PM



“ *Natalie and Reed Morgan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Van Howenstine.*

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**Natalie and Reed Morgan** - May 17, 2024 at 12:15 PM



“ *from randall,van my brother I'm devastated and Carrie I'm so sorry.van was a super dude.rip man it sucks*

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**randall rodrigue** - May 16, 2024 at 05:39 PM



“ *My condolences to the family, I have known Van since the 80's. I remember when that 1st snowball stand went up in the parking lot of Harry's Ace Hardware close to Time Saver always loved the snowballs and still visit the Gen Meyer location every time I visit New Orleans. You will be missed by many Van, may you rest in peace.*

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**Kitty** - May 12, 2024 at 08:57 AM

HN

“ I am so so sorry to hear about Van. We have known each other since elementary school and growing up in Algiers. He was always happy to see you and loved to discuss politics. My prayers are with his family 🙏 Heidi Nungesser Landry

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**Heidi Nungesser-Landry** - May 12, 2024 at 12:08 AM

CS

“ Cathy Sanderson lit a candle in memory of William Howenstine



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**Cathy Sanderson** - May 09, 2024 at 09:54 PM

MC

“ Hi Carrie--so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you. I will always remember Van's smile & laugh--we first met through his parents at Wooden & Things--then the almost daily trips to the snowball stand on General Meyer with my youngest granddaughter Devin--then followed by my youngest daughter Stephanie--he always gave them a little extra in that snowball with that happy smile. Will not be able to attend the service as we will be home in Upper Michigan but will be there in spirit.

*Denis Condon*

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**Mr. Denis Stephen Condon** - May 09, 2024 at 01:30 PM

PB

“ Van, I will never forget you and Carrue taking me to the hospital when I damaged my rotator cuff. Carrie slept but you stayed awake and talked to me. Plus you acknowledged every new person and helped many of them. Then we went to your snowball stand and you made me the first one I'd ever had. I was drugged from the hospital and couldn't taste a thing. But you were so kind to me. Then Carrie dropped me off in the wrong block of the "hotel" I was staying at. And you followed me in your car until I found it. I'm sure we were laughing. I bought picture of snowballs to hang in my kitchen in Indy and it's still hanging there.

Peggy Brindle - May 08, 2024 at 10:01 PM

MP

“ I came to New Orleans about 7 years ago. I met Van and Carrie then. very nice people who made us feel so welcome. Van drove us around. My condolences to the family. May God lay his hands upon you during this difficult time.

Marla Pelszynski - May 08, 2024 at 09:19 PM

RO

“ Rose purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of William Van Howenstine.



Rose - May 08, 2024 at 07:42 PM