

Floral & Casket Bearers

Family & Friends

INVICTUS

William Ernest Henley

Out of the night that covers me
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance,
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

Comfort Ministry and After-Care Transitional
Arrangements Entrusted To

J.E. Washington Funeral Services
1617 Third St. NE, Canton, Ohio,
330-454-3901

IN LOVING MEMORY



Fletcher Lee Howard Jr.

1942 - 2026

Saturday, October 24, 2026

Calling Hours: 10:00am

Services: 11:00am

Southeast Church of Christ

1424 Allen Avenue S.E.

Canton, Ohio 44707

J.E. WASHINGTON
FUNERAL SERVICES, INC.



Order of Celebration

Bro Nate Cooks, Officiant



Parting Viewing

Military Honors Presentation

Prayer of Comfort	Bro Lowrenzo Snell
<i>Precious Lord</i>	Bro Domico Jackson
Scripture Reading	
Old Testament	Isaiah 40:3
New Testament	1Timothy 4: 8
Reading of Obituary and Acknowledgements	
Selection	The Howard Family
Eulogy	Dr. Larry Battle
Words of Reflection (2 Minute Limit)	
Benediction	Bro Gary Harris
Recessional	<i>I'm Going Up Yonder</i>

Interment

Monday October 26, 2025

Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery

Rittman, OH

2:15 PM



The Life of Fletcher Lee Howard Jr

Fletcher Lee Howard Jr. (Fletch), age 83, peacefully departed this life on October 12, 2026. Born on December 1, 1942, in Montgomery, Alabama, he was the beloved son of the late Fletcher and Jennie Howard.

He excelled in sports, especially basketball, fondly recalling his days playing at Waco Elementary in Canton while remaining a lifelong Buckeye State basketball enthusiast. A proud graduate of McKinley High School, he maintained friendships forged during his time at Canton South High School, nurturing the bonds of camaraderie that lasted a lifetime.

A proud veteran, Fletcher served honorably in the United States Navy from September 1961 to September 1965, often reminiscing about his time at Great Lakes, Illinois, and the remarkable places he visited during his service, particularly his experiences in Japan. This passion for adventure extended throughout his life, as he traveled to all seven continents, sharing stories of his visits to the Taj Mahal, the outdoor baths of India, and the wondrous penguins of Antarctica. His travels shaped his worldview, embracing diverse cultures and friendships without the bounds of race or background.

Fletcher was a faithful and devoted member of Southeast Church of Christ, having been baptized at an early age. His powerful baritone voice graced the congregation, particularly during his memorable lead solo of the acapella hymn "My God and I," the final verse echoing his enduring faith: "This earth will pass and with it common trifles, But God and I will go on endlessly."

Fletcher committed over four decades to the Hoover Company, where he honed skills in machine maintenance. He later worked at Sam's Club to finance his travels, always looking ahead to new adventures.

Fletcher leaves a rich legacy of love and community, survived by his cherished son, Michael Roberts; his devoted sister and caregiver, Patricia Howard of Canton, Ohio; brothers Charles (Jackie) of Gautier, Mississippi, and James of Dallas, Texas; sister-in-love Joan of Canton; Elaine of Charleston, South Carolina; and dear cousin Jim Motley (Joanne) of Canton. He is also survived by a multitude of cousins, a close-knit family spanning three generations of nieces and nephews, and countless friends who treasured their time with him.

Fletcher was preceded in death by his parents and siblings Jetty Mae Howard, Calvin Howard, and Leo Howard, who he now rejoins in eternal peace. Fletch will be remembered for his zest for life, his unwavering kindness, and his passion for exploration. His legacy will forever resonate in the hearts of those he inspired and loved.