



## Dr. Frank Gilmore

March 26, 1935 - February 14, 2018

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

William Franklin “Frank” Gilmore died on February 14, 2018, at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, with his adoring wife, Ann, daughter Kristin, and son Paul by his side. Visitation will be held Saturday, February 24, 2018, at Coleman Funeral Home from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. A Celebration of Life will follow at 11:00 a.m. at Coleman Funeral Home on Saturday, February 24, 2018. Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford is in charge of arrangements.

Frank was born in Bailey, MS, on March 26, 1935, the fourth of five children of James Edwards and Willie Mae (Fontaine) Gilmore. He graduated from West End High School in Birmingham, AL, and continued his education at Virginia Military Institute, where he graduated with a degree in chemistry in 1957. After earning a PhD in organic chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1961, he served in the US Army, rising to the rank of captain. While posted at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, he met his beloved wife, Ann Louise Gauthier, whom he married on June 15, 1963, in Denver, Colorado. After a postdoc at Florida State University, he worked at Midwest Research Institute in Kansas City, Missouri, before coming to The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy in 1967. From 1967 to 1993, he was a faculty member, serving as chair of the Department of Medicinal

Chemistry twice and being honored as “Teacher of the Year.” After retiring from Ole Miss, Frank became the Vice President of Academic Affairs at West Virginia Tech in Montgomery, WV.

In 1998, Frank joined Montana Tech in Butte, MT, as the tenth Chancellor, a role in which he served until 2011. Under his leadership, Montana Tech’s enrollment and endowment grew significantly, while he maintained budget surpluses and oversaw the construction of the Natural Resources Building. In 2012, the Ann and Frank Gilmore University Relations Center was dedicated in honor of their service and commitment to Montana Tech. That same year, he returned to his love of mentoring and teaching college students by becoming the President of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation in northern Virginia, from which he retired in December 2015.

Dr. Gilmore had an extensive academic and research career in both the private and public sectors. His original and innovative research in developing and demonstrating peptidomimetics, the first synthesis of optically active amino phosphonic acids, and the first synthesis and biological evaluation of peptides containing amino phosphonic acids proved to be important in drug design and development. Frank’s academic and research accomplishments led to his serving on the board of NABP (National Associations of Boards of Pharmacy) for over three decades, as president of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society, from 2001 to 2004, and as a reviewer for the Goldwater Fellowships for over two decades. He was known as a dedicated and caring mentor and colleague who was always willing to lend support in any way he could.

In his private life, Frank enjoyed working on the tree farm he and Ann owned outside of Oxford, where he built a sawmill as well as numerous barns and sheds, harvested pulpwood and firewood, and raised vegetables. He also took

great pleasure in helping his friends and family with home improvement and repair projects. In retirement, Frank and Ann split their time between Oxford, MS, and Wise River, MT, where he was building a mountain home.

Frank was a devoted and giving husband, father, and friend who will truly be missed by the many whose lives he deeply impacted. He is survived by his wife Ann and children Kristin Newman of Collierville, TN, and Paul Gilmore (Reid Cottingham) of Princeton, NJ, his sister Bettie Jean (Bob) Withers of Corinth, GA, his sisters-in-law Karen (Dennis) Kennedy, Connie Gauthier and Joyce Young of Denver, CO, his three grandchildren, Charlotte and Rowan Gilmore and Jax Newman as well as his special great-nephew, Andrew (Yim) Tackett and his extended family.

Donations and memorials may be made to The Gilmore Family Scholarship at Montana Tech (Montana Tech Foundation, 1300 West Parks Street, Butte, MT 59701) or a charity of your choice.

A memorial service will be held later this Spring in Butte, MT.

Online condolences may be left on his Tribute Wall at [www.colemanfuneralhome.com](http://www.colemanfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **24**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford  
601 Commerce Parkway  
Oxford, MS 38655  
(662) 234-3900  
info@colemanfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.colemanfuneralhome.com/>

## Celebration of Life

FEB **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford  
601 Commerce Parkway  
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# Tribute Wall

HM

“ I was Frank's first graduate student after his arrival at the U of MS in 1967. He had some ideas that appealed to me chemically, not the least of which was the synthesis of alpha-aminophosphonic acids and the incorporation of these into peptides. Frank was in my estimation a brilliant chemist and he once told me after a failure of one of my reactions that "some reactions you have to curse before they go." We followed each other; I at Samford and Frank at Montana Tech. He wanted badly for Carole and me to visit him and Ann in Montana, but, alas, he died before we could visit. As a teacher, guide, and true friend I sure miss him, but I hold fond memories in my heart. I was able to say a few words about him at his celebration of life and live in the hope of our Lord that we will meet again. H. Anthony McBride, Ph.D. (Ole Miss -1972)

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**H. Anthony McBride** - September 12, 2023 at 04:52 PM

MD

“ Marian Dinan lit a candle in memory of Dr. Frank Gilmore



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**Marian Dinan** - November 30, 2018 at 12:48 AM

MD

*My sympathy and prayers on behalf of Franklin's classmates at West End High School to Ann and the Gilmore family. Franklin lived a beautiful life and was such a credit to humanity. He will be missed.*

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**Marian Dinan** - November 30, 2018 at 12:50 AM

TM

“ I was Frank's first graduate student at Ole Miss beginning in 1968. I received my Ph.D. under his guidance in July 1972. He was a guide, helper, and comforter when things did not go well in the lab. We kept in touch and I was very sad to hear of his passing. "Long live alpha-aminophosphonic acids and the peptides!" Tony McBride

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**Tony McBride** - March 14, 2018 at 05:36 PM

SD

“ Dear Ann and Family, I was so sad when I learned of Frank's passing. My deepest sympathies for all of you. Frank and I arrived at Ole Miss at the same time in 1967. He soon became my friend and mentor as well as a wonderful Med Chem professor. We shared many good times at Phi Delta Chi gatherings. We will all miss his smile and insightful comments.

*May God grant you peace. Sam Daniel*

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**Sam Daniel** - March 03, 2018 at 09:35 AM

GS

“ Dear Ann,

*Sally and I continue to have you and your family in our prayers. We are thankful for the times we've had together through the years at VMI Class Reunions, especially our 60th last year, plus our visits in Oxford and Hattiesburg, MS. Frank and I had a special bond as we were, to my knowledge, the only native Mississippians to graduate in VMI's Class of 1957.*

*We regret not being able to attend Frank's funeral service in Oxford. Howard Lawrence, Frank's roommate and devoted Brother Rat who spoke at the funeral, sent us a detailed email which Sally and I were so thankful to receive. We hope to someday have the opportunity to meet your daughter and son, Kristin and Paul and other family members.*

*Rest easy, Ann, knowing Frank is no longer having to fight cancer. He has successfully achieved all his important goals in life through an unparalleled and dedicated work effort. Frank will never be forgotten by his students, colleagues and Brother Rats who held him in high esteem.*

*Love,*

*Garland and Sally*

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**Garland and Sally Sullivan** - March 02, 2018 at 02:54 PM

KD

“ Dear Ann and family - Please accept our condolences in the passing of Frank. He was a good man and close friend whom I shall miss greatly. Frank and I had many good conversations during our past class reunions and I hope to continue them in the hereafter. May God bless you all during these sad times

*In Sympathy,  
Kenny Dickinson*

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**Kenneth K. Dickinson** - March 02, 2018 at 09:31 AM

RM

“ Sending our Love and prayers to Ann and family from cousins Barbara Moss Tillotson and Reggie & Evelyn Moss and remembering all of you in many precious ways!

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**Reggie Moss** - February 24, 2018 at 09:17 AM

JJ

“ Dr. Gilmore was my Medical Chemistry Professor while I was in Pharmacy School at Ole Miss from 1989-1991. He always challenged me to go above what I thought was my best effort possible. His genuine care for my education helped form the foundation for a successful Pharmacy career. I have thought of him often and will always have fond memories of him. My life was fuller because of having known him as a teacher and mentor. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

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**Jeff Jones** - February 22, 2018 at 11:08 AM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank Gilmore.*



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February 21, 2018 at 09:44 PM



“ *Dr. Gilmore was a first class guy and professor in the Pharmacy School at Ole Miss. He was a very kind man and helpful to me as I struggled through Pharmacy school. I will always remember his patience with me and other students in our Organic Medicinal Chemistry classes.*

*Sorry to hear about his passing.*

*Ray Chiniche MEd, RPH.*

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**Ray Chiniche** - February 21, 2018 at 04:40 PM



“ *Love from Aunt Jane and Cousin Kathy purchased the A Full Life for the family of Dr. Frank Gilmore.*



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**Love from Aunt Jane and Cousin Kathy** - February 19, 2018 at 12:11 AM

EW

“ Ann,

*I was so sorry to hear of Frank's passing. It was always my pleasure to assist both of you with various services for your family members at Coleman Funeral Home. The thing I remember most about Frank was his wry sense of humor and the obvious bond the two of you shared. May you find peace in the coming days in memories of that bond and your life together. Ellen Coleman Weaver*

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**Ellen C. Weaver** - February 18, 2018 at 08:23 PM

GL

“ Dear Ann and family,  
We have so many good memories of the time spent with you and Frank with the NRC committee! We all spent so many years together at meetings, sharing about our families and their lives. We loved hearing about your many moves and opportunities in various parts of the US, so much you both shared over so many years. Thank you for sharing your lives with us! Frank was such an asset to NRC and the examination program. He was a staunch supporter of the importance of basic chemistry in the exam and fought hard always to see that it remained an important component. Frank was such an integral part of the NRC "family" for many years, and he was already missed at the February meeting. We were all so hopeful that the current treatments would be successful--he's been such a fighter over a long time and we were praying this course would bring success.  
Both Gene and I consider you long time friends (despite some "differences" of political opinion!) We are very sorry not to be able to share in Frank's final services but please know how much we are thinking of you all and praying that you will find great comfort in knowing what a legacy Frank leaves. Please do keep in touch in the coming years and hopefully we will continue our friendship for years to come. God bless you and give you comfort and peace.  
With warmest thoughts,  
Gene and Susan Lutz

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Gene and Susan Lutz - February 16, 2018 at 09:50 PM