



## James Elliott "Eddie" Turner

December 16, 1957 - August 12, 2023

A heart for music is a gift and those fortunate enough to receive that gift are in return a blessing to others. Eddie 'Dumplin' Turner was born with that gift and nurtured it throughout his life.

Eddie began his work career in the trucking industry before finding his true calling with ABC Roofing Supply. His knowledge of the business, his easygoing personality, and strong people skills served him well. These skills allowed him to rise to the position of Managing Partner within the company and to earn many awards and accolades in Asheville, North Carolina - nestled in the mountains that he loved so very much. Although his career was of extreme importance, he never gave up his love of music.

Eddie discovered his gift of music, and love for music, at a young age while playing guitar in a small family band mostly doing gospel music. His stepmother and siblings regularly played and sang, and this instilled in him the strong desire to be involved. He performed in many local groups growing up, including gospel and country, but Eddie found his true calling in the genre of Bluegrass. He spent most of his adult life involved in a Bluegrass band - Brush Fire - that he helped form at age 20. With the exception of short stints when his job took him away, he performed with the group from 1977 until his health would not allow him to continue. His talent on mandolin, guitar, and vocals contributed greatly to the success and longevity of the group. Brush

Fire released 5 recordings over the life of the group, traveled over the southeastern U S as well as to Oloron-Saint-Marie, France, to participate in the Pyrenees Folklore Festival in 1990. The group was also involved in the founding of the International Bluegrass Music Association. Over its life, the band performed at many hundreds, maybe thousands, of events of all kinds from churches to arts events, charity functions etc.

Eddie will be missed by the Bluegrass community. His musical contributions were great, and the name 'Dumplin' will be remembered.

The funeral will be Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 2 p.m. at McKoon Chapel located at 38 Jackson St, Newnan, GA 30263. Visitations will be Wednesday August 16th from 6 p.m. till 8 p.m. and Thursday August 17 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at McKoon Funeral Home.

Eddie is survived by his precious puppy Dorie; Mama Tina (Christine Nichols); Sister Tracey Denham (James); son Stanley Turner (Tosha); Grandson Hunter Turner; Stepdaughter Sarah Boyd Smith, (Carrol O.); Stepsons Courtney Boyd, Aaron Bradley Boyd, Nathaniel Tyler Boyd, Arthur Jeffrey Durham; Step-grandkids Toma Alexander Kish, Summer Boyd, Ethan Boyd, Autumn Boyd, Zoe Boyd; Aunts; Uncles; Nieces; Nephews; Cousins; Great friend Vickie Entekin Rudisill; Caregiver and companion Rev. Judith Barnett; and friends too numerous to count.

Eddie was pre-deceased by his wife Shelley King Turner; parents Frank Turner and Barbara Gilley Turner; grandparents Fred Turner and Alice Gowins Turner; Sister Teresa Turner Luckie; and Brother David Turner.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Eddie's name to, The International Bluegrass Music Association Trust Fund <https://ibma.org/bluegrass-trust-fund/>; The Appalachian Trail Conservancy <https://bit.ly/3qw60Xx>, or

the charity of your choice.

Condolences can be expressed online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com).

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

## Visitation

AUG 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

## Funeral Service

AUG 17. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

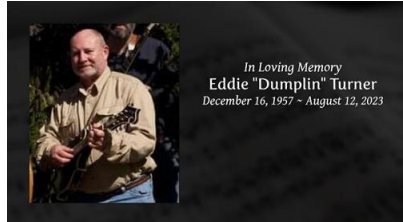
McKoon Funeral Home Chapel  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263



# Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of James Elliott "Eddie" Turner*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - August 22, 2023 at 02:51 PM



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of James Elliott "Eddie" Turner*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - August 17, 2023 at 09:59 AM



“ *I met Eddie a few times in our Cascade Highlands, NC neighborhood. I was immediately struck by his kindness, gentle spirit and friendliness. We will all miss him around here. Much love to his family and friends.*

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**Marcia** - August 18, 2023 at 11:27 AM

RK

“ Eddie I wanted to come today but they wouldn't unplug me from the chemo you singing Percy sledge cover me and when a man meets a woman your voice I will never forget and I owe it all to you how I learned to play the guitar was on some of your guitars a remember the Martin D26 sweet box you determined destination led me to be a great guitar player until we meet again when the saints come marching home

Randy kittle - August 17, 2023 at 07:56 PM

AK

“ Rest in Peace Eddie. Will always remember you playing music. Miss you and love you. April and boys.



April Oliver Kendzierski - August 17, 2023 at 11:21 AM

GP

“ Gaylene Yeager Pronevitch lit a candle in memory of James Elliott "Eddie" Turner



Gaylene Yeager Pronevitch - August 17, 2023 at 10:58 AM

RW

“ I met and worked for Eddie at Pike Transfer in Newnan in the late 1970s. In conversation, Eddie learned I was a writer, singer and guitarist of southern rock music (Lynyrd Skynyrd). Eddie told me of his band and that they did bluegrass music. I asked him when their next show was and I went. That is when I learned not only was he a fine person, great supervisor but one heckuva musician too! Growing up on WSM radio grand Ole Opry music I was very familiar and his band was top shelf. We reconnected in later years thru facebook and I am sad to hear of his untimely passing. Condolences to his family and friends from mine. Eddie you will always be remembered. Peace, Randy Wallace.

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**Randy Wallace** - August 17, 2023 at 10:39 AM

RK

*Randy Wallace where you*

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**Randy kittle** - August 17, 2023 at 07:58 PM

JH

*Eddie “Dumplin” Turner was one of the nicest people I had the pleasure working with at ABC Supply. I had him and his band Brush Fire perform with all my branch managers for a meeting at the Primland in Meadows of Dan, Virginia. Man, could he play that mandolin! I know he had one specially made I believe In California. I loved talking country music and Bluegrass with Eddie. Gonna miss you my friend! Save a seat for me in heaven and give Shelly a hug for me.*

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**Jamie Hardman** - August 18, 2023 at 01:59 PM