



## Wilbert Edward Armstead Jr.

July 22, 2021

Wilbert Edward Armstead, Jr., best known as Ed, was born on June 23, 1934 in Baltimore, Maryland to Mary Josphine Armstead (nee Hill) and Wilbert Edward Armstead, Sr., the first of their five children.

Ed graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1951. Ed was bright, having skipped two grades in school, and wanted to attend the University of Maryland to design airplanes. When the University of Maryland would not accept Ed, as a black student, they paid for him to attend the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1955. After graduation, he moved with his wife, Shirley and his two girls, to New Jersey where he began his extensive career with the Radio Corporation of America (RCA).

Ed and Shirley first lived in Lawnside, NJ and began to grow their family. Ed's family was one of the pioneering homeowners of Blaise Ravikio's development, built especially for black middle-class families, on Farmdale Road. The New Jersey Armsteads (as they were known among family) grew to include six girls.

Ed was an excellent example of an involved and active citizen in the Moorestown community. Ed was an active member of Our Lady of Good

Counsel (OLGC) Church, faithfully counting money on the third Sunday, for many years. He was also a member of the Moorestown Township School Board for 17 years, ultimately serving as president for several years. Ed served on Burlington County Girl Scout Council as a Trustee, on the Board of Directors of Family Services of Burlington County, on the Moorestown Improvement Association as President, Vice President of the Burlington County Association of New Jersey School Board, and tutor with the Moorestown BOE Project Help. He was honored by the Moorestown Service Club Council as a 1999 Citizen of the Year.

Ed's career in RCA Moorestown, spanned over 50 years, until his retirement in 2007. He worked in the same buildings although the corporate name changed from RCA, to GE, to Martin-Marietta to Lockheed Martin. He especially enjoyed his work in the Combat System Engineering Development Site (CSEDS) and his earlier work with radar installations on Ascension Island.

Moorestonians of the 1960s and 1970s will recall the Armstead 'family' car which was a Citroën Safari wagon. We still are trying to figure out how Ed got Shirley to agree to that! Ed was a member of the Citroën Car Club, and was awarded a silver cup at the New Hope Auto Show.

Ed developed a love for running as a means for fitness. He enjoyed running marathons into his 60s, and developed many long lasting friendships with his running buddies. In his 70s, and 80s, Ed continued to pursue fitness by walking throughout the community, and working out at the YMCA until just a year ago. Ed also enjoyed bowling in the MRA Mixed Bowling League from which he received the Bob Neely Sportsmanship Award for 2018-2019.

He is survived by his wife, E. Shirley (nee Cole), daughters Barbara, Valerie (Michael), Patsy, Cookie/Joann (William), Jeri (John) and Angie (Sherman);

grandchildren Cassandra (Cleo), Penelope, Veronica, Cole, Austin, Lauretee, Samuel, Timothy; great-grandson, Miles, brothers Joseph (Carol), Arthur Eugene, his sisters Josephine Utley, Edith Ricks, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Visitation 6- 8 pm Tues. July 27, 2021 at the Lewis Funeral Home, 78 E. Main St. Moorestown, NJ

Mass of Christian burial 10:30 am Wed. 7/28/2021 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 42 W. Main St. Moorestown, NJ.

Interment Lakeview Memorial Park, Cinnaminson, NJ.

In lieu of flowers, the family is accepting donations to the W. Edward Armstead, Jr. Scholarship which is awarded to a MHS senior pursuing a college degree in science or technology.

Contact Joann Armstead Foster at [jcarmstead@aol.com](mailto:jcarmstead@aol.com) for details

# Cemetery Details

## Lakeview Memorial Park

Rt. # 130 North  
Cinnaminson, NJ

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Lewis Funeral Home  
78 E Main St  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
(856) 235-0009  
lewisfh@msn.com  
<https://www.lewisfuneralhomemoorestown.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 28. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Good Counsel  
42 West Main Street  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
(856) 235-0181  
<http://www.olgcnj.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wilbert Edward Armstead Jr.*

October 09, 2023 at 03:30 AM



“ *Wilbert Edward Armstead Jr.*

November 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *ED was there for me always. He knew what life was about & we shared alot together. Thank you Ed for BEING YOU.*

**Joe Miscannon** - July 29, 2021 at 06:52 PM



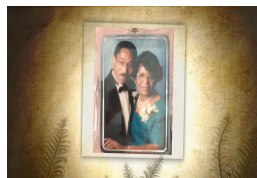
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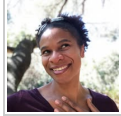
**Lewis Funeral Home** - July 28, 2021 at 04:16 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Photo Tribute Show*



**Lewis Funeral Home** - July 28, 2021 at 04:16 PM



*What a treasure. He was such a beautiful soul.*

**Ariana Waynes** - July 31, 2021 at 11:31 AM

JP

*So sorry for your loss. Prayers are with the family.*

**James Pringle** - July 31, 2021 at 02:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Honors Ceremony



**Lewis Funeral Home** - July 28, 2021 at 04:16 PM

DH

“ *I have worked with Ed for several years at CSEDS. He was my manager when he retired and was great to work for and he was an all around great guy. My thoughts go out to him and his family. He will be missed. Not too long ago, I would see Ed coming out of Wegman's after he went to the YMCA. He always asked about everyone at work to see how they were doing. I also saw him at other local stores in the area like BJ'S wholesale. I always looked forward to talking to him. Rest In Peace Ed. You will be missed.*

*Dave Heller*

**David Heller** - July 28, 2021 at 09:18 AM

MD

“ Ed was a true gentleman, and friend, I will absolutely miss him. I bowled with Ed, he was my teammate for 2 maybe 3 seasons, always a smile and always a positive attitude. During those times, seeing him somewhat struggle with throwing his ball down the lane, I would help him by giving him some helpful advice " Straight at the line, and you'll do fine", and keep your arm straight! He would always smile and laugh' such a great teammate. My deepest sympathies go out to his wife Shirley, and the family, may he rest in peace!

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**Mary Dennen** - July 28, 2021 at 07:33 AM

BG

“ I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Armstead's passing! He was an incredible Community Leader!

I remember his dedication to the Board of Education, and to the community of Moorestown! We took swimming lessons together at the Community House during the 70's! I love the entire family, Ed' beautiful Wife, Lovely Daughters and Granddaughters! Many Blessings and Prayers to your family! Ed is gone, but never forgotten!  
Lovingly Barbara Gary



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**Barbara (Bailey) Gary** - July 28, 2021 at 05:38 AM

RA

“ ed was a great guy and a pleasure to work with we would always talk football before my qa job.he would always have soemthing nice to say working with ed at the csed site was great rich allen

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**rich allen** - July 27, 2021 at 05:46 PM

SO

“ I worked for Ed out at CSEDS for the last half of the nineties, He was the perfect antidote to all of the chaos that accompanies most work projects. He was patient and deliberate with a cutting wit that was always at the ready. He treated people with respect and always built confidence in his team. Those were some of the best of my work years and it was mainly due to ED's presence as a leader and friend. The world feels a little more empty without him.in it.

*Rest in peace my friend and hopefully you remembered to bring your running shoes...*

*With my deepest sympathies to your family,  
Shawn O'Neill*

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**Shawn O'Neill** - July 27, 2021 at 04:28 PM

SR

“ Dear Valerie and Patsy:

*My brother Mark and I are very sorry to hear of your father's passing. We remember what a talented and supportive man he was, and we recall the many times our father spoke fondly of him during the years they worked together at RCA.*

*When I first took up running as a hobby, I would often see your father at the Memorial Field track behind Roberts school, and he was always happy to answer my questions about running (what's the best way to warm-up, how do I pick running shoes, how should my feet hit the ground, and how do I build endurance over time?). Although I hadn't seen your father in years, I often think about the excellent advice he gave me almost half a century ago, and I surely do miss those constructive interactions.*

*Please accept our condolences at this sad time. Nobody will ever replace your dad.*

*Sincerely,  
Scott and Mark Reboul*

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**Scott Mark Reboul** - July 27, 2021 at 02:16 PM

LH

“ *Ed was in my bowling league. He always had a smile and encouragement for others. A true gentleman.*

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**Lisa Harding** - July 27, 2021 at 10:17 AM

AH

“ My deepest sympathy to the Armstead family. Both my father (Bernie Hurley) and I worked with Ed over the years at RCA at al. And we shared a mutual bond as we also owned a Citroen DS21 Safari wagon and all the joys that came with maintaining it here in the US! Rest in Peace, Ed.  
Aedan Hurley

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**Aedan Hurley** - July 26, 2021 at 10:15 PM

GD

“ We have known Ed and Shirley for 45 years. Bill first met Ed at the Moorestown track in back of Memorial Field (we lived next to Memorial Field at that time). Ed and Bill laughed at the fact that they both ran about the same speed (fairly slow), but never stopped trying to maintain the sport. Both of our girls knew and respected Ed, and instinctively understood from the moment they met him, when they were children, that this was a good person and someone who never missed an opportunity to crack a joke with them. Always a smile on his face, always something positive to say about life. He will be sorely missed.  
Our sincerest sympathy is expressed to Shirley and their whole lovely family.  
Georgianna & Bill Dickson.

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**Georgianna & Bill Dickson** - July 26, 2021 at 05:49 PM

PM

“ Had the pleasure of knowing Ed for over 20 years. Whether it was at church or on other boards and committees. Recently, I was fortunate to meet and briefly talk with him. Sad to see him go. Prayers go out to his family, God Bless!

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**Peter Miller** - July 26, 2021 at 12:42 PM

JM

“ We have known Mr. Armstead for 20 years. Such a kind hearted man. My children loved him. I am so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with Mrs. Armstead.

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**Jennifer M.** - July 25, 2021 at 08:27 PM

SR

“ I have very fond memories of your Dad and your family from growing up in Moorestown and attending OLGK every Sunday. I know my Dad did as well. My sincerest thoughts and prayers for all of your family. Shavaun Carey Roberts

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**Shavaun Roberts** - July 25, 2021 at 04:57 PM

DS

“ On behalf of the Morristown Improvement Association's Trustees I offer our deepest sympathies to Ed's entire family. He was a Moorestown treasure and will be greatly missed.

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**Dave Schill** - July 24, 2021 at 07:52 AM

JH

“ I had the privilege of knowing Ed for over 30 years and I know that I am a better person for having known him. I always looked forward to having Ed and his running buddies run past my home every Saturday. One of my fondest memories was being able to introduce Ed as Moorestown's Citizen of the Year. With Ed's passing, Moorestown has lost a true treasure who will never be replaced. RIP Ed, you will be loved and missed.

Your Friend,  
Jack Hall

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**Jack Hall** - July 23, 2021 at 08:26 PM

JB

*I worked with Ed at RCA-Moorestown for many years and tried to get him to transfer into Programs office but he wanted to, and did, stay in Engineering Design. A pro in every sense, a pleasure to work with and a well-earned respect from everyone.  
RIP, Ed.*

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**John W Bornholdt** - July 26, 2021 at 10:31 AM



*Ed was a gentleman with such character. I will miss seeing him about town and his family is thought of at this time and always. My best Shirley.*

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**Gina Zegel** - July 26, 2021 at 04:58 PM

CW

*Ed will always be in our hearts as a man of impeccable character, a pillar of this community and above all, a great family man. Husband, father and grandfather, always low-key, always helpful, always a smile and a gracious word. Always intelligent, dedicated, willing to help. Good passing, Ed, you are now in the presence of the Most High!*

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**Carmen von Wrangell** - July 27, 2021 at 08:55 AM

ML

*Ed was an exceptional man who always took time out to say hello. I knew Ed from working at CSEDS and knew him as one of the kindest people. He made a lasting impression on many people and truly we can all learn from him on how to live one's life.*

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**Mike Lutz** - July 27, 2021 at 09:47 AM

AH

*So sorry to hear of Ed's passing. He was such a gentleman (in every sense of the word), always professional, and a pleasure to work with. For a number of years I had the pleasure of working with him at the CSEDS site on many projects. When things were not going as expected, Ed was the 'take charge' guy to get things back on an even course.*

*Fair winds and following seas, my friend. May you rest in peace. Farewell, you will be missed. God bless.*

*Al Hazell (the QA guy)*

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**Alan Hazell** - July 28, 2021 at 05:04 PM

CH

*Dear Shirley and Family, I just learned of the passing of your beloved husband and devoted father to your beautiful, talented, accomplished daughters. my deepest sympathy . God's Blessings. Carolynn Henderson (now in Annapolis, MD)*

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**Carolynn Henderson** - September 03, 2021 at 12:26 PM