



David L. Gibbons

March 15, 1948 - July 7, 2025

David L. Gibbons, Jr., age 77, passed away Monday, July 7, 2025, in Clarksville, AR. He was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and raised in Ozark, Arkansas, but resided in Clarksville, Arkansas for the past 31 years. David was of the Christian faith. Prior to his retirement, David served as Prosecuting Attorney for the 5th Judicial District for 21 years. Prior to that time, he practiced Criminal and Family Law. He was Pope County's first Public Defender and served as Municipal Judge for the Ozark District of Franklin County. He was City Attorney for both Altus and Ozark, Arkansas from 1983 through 1986. As part of his duties as Prosecuting Attorney, David acted as Director of the 5th Judicial Drug Task Force, and, and served as Special Prosecutor for the State of Arkansas on multiple occasions.

David sought his undergraduate degree at Hendrix College in Conway, AR and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology. He went on to the University of Arkansas School of Law where he received his Juris Doctorate Degree in 1981. David served in the United States Army from 1970 to 1974 and was stationed in Panama for most of this time. In 1974, he transferred to the United States Army Reserve where he served until 1976, when he was honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant in the Infantry.

David was preceded in death by his parents, Doctor D.L. Gibbons, Sr. and Alice Barnett Gibbons of Ozark, AR and is survived by his brother James

Gibbons and wife Julia of Ozark, AR, wife, Iva Nell Gibbons, his sons David L. Gibbons, III, and wife Sarah of Van Buren, AR, Jeremy Isaac Gunn and wife Emily of Fayetteville, AR and Elijah Joseph Gunn and wife Jessica of Lamar, AR. He is further survived by his daughters, Jayla Henderson and husband Dan of Tulsa, OK, Jaime Shea of Tulsa, OK, Jessie Gunn Campbell and husband Brandon of Clarksville, AR, as well as Jennifer Forand of Denver, CO. David has also been blessed by 35 grandchildren/great grandchildren.

The family plans to have a private Celebration of Life, to be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements were made under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home of Ozark, AR.

To leave an online memorial, visit www.shafferfuneralhomeweb.com

Tribute Wall

LM

“ *Very sorry for the loss of David All my love and condolences to the family, I have always cherished the Gibbons family !*

lela. McLaughlin - August 05, 2025 at 11:14 AM

JV

“ *Judy (Patrick) Vest lit a candle in memory of David Gibbons*



Judy (Patrick) Vest - July 13, 2025 at 09:18 PM

LB

“ *David and I were in the same L1 group throughout our first year of law school and regularly saw each other. Following graduation and admission to the bar, we both established law practices in the Fifth Judicial District. David was a great attorney and better person. He will be missed but not forgotten. Condolences to Iva Nell and all the family.*

Len Bradley - July 13, 2025 at 05:12 PM

AH

“ *My first memory of David was when I served on a jury years ago that he was trying. I was impressed with his skills as an attorney and considered him a "shark" which is a complement for an attorney in my opinion. Then years later I was part of the Drug Court and got to know him and respected him greatly.*

Alisa Hilburn - July 13, 2025 at 03:27 PM

MD

“ Sorry to hear of David’s passing. Prayers for the family.

Marlene Dougan - July 12, 2025 at 09:25 PM

RW

“ David was the voice of justice for many years in Franklin County. Pop is proud! Roy Joe Whitehead

Roy Whitehead - July 12, 2025 at 02:44 PM

RW

“ Roy W. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David L. Gibbons.

Roy W. - July 12, 2025 at 02:35 PM

MP

“ So sorry for your loss. You’re all in our thoughts and prayers! He was always a great help for the legal part of our CHCL (Concealed Handgun Carry License) classes for the Arkansas River Valley Gun Club. He was a true and caring gentleman!

Michael Benefield, PhD - July 12, 2025 at 12:58 AM

JP

“ John and Edna Patterson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of David L. Gibbons.



John and Edna Patterson - July 11, 2025 at 06:43 PM

CE

“ Candace A Ervin lit a candle in memory of David Gibbons



Candace A Ervin - July 11, 2025 at 02:34 PM

DB

“ Condolences and prayers for the Hon. David L Gibbons. He was a very honest man. He was my ex wife Tina Jo's Attorney when she and I got our divorce. I am very honored to have know him. Rest In Peace my friend. You have earned it.

Doyle Bowman - July 11, 2025 at 01:00 AM

LA

“ David will be missed. He was a good man. I worked at the Pope County Sheriff's Office and saw David a lot over the years. He was my friend, and my lawyer at one time. He was good at his job whatever he did. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends ❤️🙏❤️

Lori Abington - July 11, 2025 at 12:44 AM

JF

“ Jerrod Wyles and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of David L. Gibbons.



Jerrod Wyles and family - July 10, 2025 at 09:47 PM

RH

“ *David was a dear friend, and the best prosecutor that I ever had the pleasure of working with. RIP old friend. Prayers to the family.*
Richard Hoffman ASP/Retired.

Richard Hoffman - July 10, 2025 at 06:47 PM