



## Merle David Dowling

January 4, 1959 - December 8, 2013

Merle David Dowling, 54, of Benton Harbor, passed away early Sunday, Dec. 8 at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph.

Visitation will be held this Thursday evening, December 12, from 7:00 until 9:00, at the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, 1053 E. Napier Ave., in Benton Harbor. A family funeral service and burial will be held privately. Memorials may be made to the family. Messages of condolence may be sent to [www.florin.net](http://www.florin.net).

Merle was born January 4, 1959. He enjoyed outdoor activities including fishing and playing pool. Merle had numerous friends and was loved by many. He was close to his family, particularly his grandson, Adrian.

Merle is survived by his mother, Patricia Dowling of Benton Harbor; brother James Dowling of Benton Harbor; his widow, Christine of Benton Harbor, two sons, Brandon and Justin Dowling both of Benton Harbor; and by his grandson, Adrian Dowling of Benton Harbor.

Merle was preceded in death by his father, George Dowling and by his brother, Patrick John Dowling

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 12. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service  
1053 East Napier Avenue  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022  
(269) 926-7222  
staff@florin.net

# Tribute Wall

SR

“ Pat and Jimmy, I am so sorry to hear about Merle's passing. My only memories are as kids playing at your house. And they were such good memories. Bless you and may you find strength in Gods promise.

*Shelly Rachuig-Combs*

---

**Shelly Rachuig-Combs** - December 13, 2013 at 03:41 PM

JF

“ Merle u were a great man and loved by all. You were like a father to me and I just wish I could see u one last time to let u know how much u meant to me. I will love you always and u will always be in my thoughts.

---

**Jennifer foley** - December 12, 2013 at 08:55 PM

SP

“ Dear Peachie and family,  
I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. You are all in my prayers during this time of sorrow. I don't remember much about him but my children and I spent countless hours wirh his fantastic sons and his testament lives on through them. If there is anything I can do please don't hesitate to call on me. May God lay a hand of comfort on your hearts in the coming days.

*Love, Sarah.*

---

**Sarah Pollard** - December 12, 2013 at 06:18 PM

SP

“ Dear Peachie and family,  
I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. You are all in my prayers during this time of sorrow. I don't remember much about him but my children and I spent countless hours with his fantastic sons and his testament lives on through them. If there is anything I can do please don't hesitate to call on me. May God lay a hand of comfort on your hearts in the coming days.  
Love, Sarah.

---

**Sarah Pollard** - December 12, 2013 at 06:18 PM

GB

“ You were a good friend rest in peace

---

**George Barker** - December 11, 2013 at 06:04 PM

BE

“ You will be missed my friend ... Brian & Pam

---

**BRIAN ELSNER** - December 10, 2013 at 05:53 PM

BE

“ **BRIAN ELSNER** lit a candle in memory of  
Merle David Dowling



---

**BRIAN ELSNER** - December 10, 2013 at 05:45 PM