



## E. Dale Cobble

January 31, 1929 - May 9, 2023

E. Dale Cobble, age 94, of Hobart, Indiana, passed away peacefully in his home Tuesday, May 9, 2023, surrounded by his family. He was born in Gary, Indiana, on January 31, 1929, and later moved to Portage, Indiana, where he graduated from Portage High School in 1947. Dale is survived by his wife Carole (Tonagel) Cobble with whom he recently celebrated 72 years of marriage, sons Brian Cobble (Loretta) and Dean Cobble (Maggie), grandchildren Mary Elizabeth Cobble, Lucy Jones Cobble and Grace Lafferty Cobble. He was preceded in death by his parents John Patrick Cobble and Phyllis Lafferty Cobble, sisters Catherine Cobble Swenson (Paul), Carol Ann Cobble Sanders, Rita Rae Cobble and brother Samuel Cobble.

Dale received his B.S. in accounting from Trine (Tri-State) University located in Angola, Indiana, in 1950. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in 1952.

One year later, following a short stint with a downtown Gary radio station, Dale was hired by John Primich, son-in-law of George W. Berkheimer, as Controller for the G.W. Berkheimer Co., Inc., a decision that would change Dale's life forever. At the time of his hire in 1953, the fledgling wholesaler of coal and fuel oil heating equipment and supplies boasted 8 employees and two locations in Gary and Indianapolis. Dale dedicated the next 70 years of his life to Berkheimer as Treasurer, COO, President and Chairman of the Board, leading the evolution of the company into a full-service, regional distributor of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment, accessories and

supplies operating 26 locations in three states. He was also a tireless advocate for the HVACR distribution industry, chairing numerous trade association committees and serving as its President in the 1980's.

During his rare moments away from Berkheimer, chances are you could find him humbly working in his beloved vegetable garden. He particularly enjoyed the annual spring ritual of watching his reluctant sons shovel loads of farm-fresh fertilizer into their garden and into the neighbors' flower beds.

A long-time supporter of youth sports, including Hobart Youth Basketball, Little League and Pop Warner, he remained an avid fan of high school and college basketball throughout his life. His numerous long term civic and charitable affiliations included the Hobart YMCA, First United Methodist Church of Hobart, Merrillville Rotary, and the M.L. McClelland Masonic Lodge.

Visitation will be Friday, May 19, 2023, at Burns Funeral Home, 701 E. 7th Street, Hobart, IN 46342 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Visitation will resume at Burns, Saturday, May 20, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with Funeral Service beginning at 11:00 a.m., Rev. Leah Peksenak officiating. Burial will follow at Calumet Park Cemetery, 2305 W. 73rd Avenue, Merrillville, IN 46410. A luncheon will follow at G.W. Berkheimer Co., Inc., 11200 Delaware Parkway, Crown Point, IN 46307

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to your favorite charity. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 19. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
(219) 942-1117  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Visitation

MAY 20. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
(219) 942-1117  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Funeral Service

MAY 20. 11:00 AM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
(219) 942-1117  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of E. Dale Cobble.*



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May 18, 2023 at 11:51 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of E. Dale Cobble.

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May 18, 2023 at 11:51 PM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of E. Dale Cobble.*



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May 17, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of E. Dale Cobble.*



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May 17, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of *E. Dale Cobble*.



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May 16, 2023 at 12:19 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of *E. Dale Cobble*.

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May 16, 2023 at 12:19 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of *E. Dale Cobble*.



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May 16, 2023 at 09:29 AM



“ *"The Old Rugged Cross 30" Rose Gold Sonnet Chime* was purchased for the family of *E. Dale Cobble*.



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May 15, 2023 at 09:45 PM

VZ

“ I am very sorry to hear about the passing away of Dale. Dale was a very good friend of my husband, Frank Zudock. They started their relationship as young men in their twenties, Dale with Berkheimer and Frank with Gary Steel Products. Both companies were owned by the Primich Brothers. They were friends for over 60 years. Frank thought the world of Dale and turned to him for advice many times which helped him immensely. I can't praise Dale enough. He was a good husband, father, boss, friend, and all around good human being. I have tears in my eyes as I write this. Dale will be missed by many. He was the epitome of what a man should be. Violet Zudock

Violet Zudock - May 15, 2023 at 12:13 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of E. Dale Cobble.



May 14, 2023 at 07:10 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of E. Dale Cobble.



May 12, 2023 at 08:16 PM

LF

“ Love, Your Allied Air Family. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of E. Dale Cobble.



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**Love, Your Allied Air Family.** - May 12, 2023 at 09:44 AM

MD

“ So sorry for your loss. You don't know me but my late mom used to clean house for you and the Hrehas..

*Mary Ann Eleff Djankovich*

*Her name was Lillian*

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**MARY ANN DJANKOVICH** - May 12, 2023 at 07:59 AM

JC

*Dale was the Best . He loved Hobart Youth Sports. He was always a Big Inspiration to our Hobart Community. Dale was Awesome*

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**Joe Casko** - May 14, 2023 at 02:30 PM

KW

“ To all the Cobbles - How lucky you were to have had Dale for so long. He was such a warm, kind, genial man. I will miss him. Prayers for everyone. ❤️

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**Katie Walsh** - May 11, 2023 at 07:56 PM