



## George V. Foster

December 14, 1932 - February 28, 2025

George Vanderkolk Foster, 92, passed away on Friday, Feb. 28, 2025 in Libertyville, IL. He was born Dec. 14, 1932 in Lafayette, IN and had been a Libertyville resident since 1979. He received his undergraduate degree and Ph.D. from Purdue University and was an avid Purdue men's basketball fan. George had been employed by Abbott Laboratories for many years and was a US Army veteran. In the mid-1950's, he was stationed on Governor's Island while playing with the Army Band and once performed for both General Douglas MacArthur and the Queen of England. In 1991, he co-founded the Illinois Brass Band (IBB), which won an unprecedented string of six U.S. championships in seven years (1996- 2002). IBB was also honored to attend the 2003 British Open Brass Band Championships - the first brass band outside the British Commonwealth to compete in this prestigious event. George was a member of Hope Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Grayslake and an enthusiastic Cubs fan who greatly enjoyed annual trips to spring training in Arizona.

Surviving are two children, Mark Foster (Alyssa O'Neill) and Tamara Foster; three grandchildren, Samantha Foster (Montana Stahl), and Lukas and Noah Harding; a great grandchild, Fenris Stahl; and his brother, Herbert (Sandra) Foster.

He was preceded in death by his wife Charlene Foster in 2013.

A visitation will begin at 10 am Friday, March 7, 2025 until time of his funeral service at 11:30 am Friday at the Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.) Libertyville. Interment will follow at Lakeside Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to Hope Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 32475 N. Alleghany Road, Grayslake, IL 60030. Info: 847-362-3009 or please share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 7. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home  
120 West Park Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048  
(847) 362-3009

## Funeral Service

MAR 7. 11:30 AM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home  
120 West Park Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048  
(847) 362-3009

# Tribute Wall

GC

“ I am very sorry to hear of George's passing. He literally changed my life. I was working at Abbott Labs as an Instrument Scientist in the Diagnostics Division. One morning I got a call from George (who I didn't know at the time) inviting me to come to the first rehearsal of a new British Style Brass Band that was forming in Libertyville. At the time I was only playing trumpet in one orchestra and felt like I needed another place to play so I agreed to come out and see what it was about. The first rehearsal was a bit rough, but I could tell that this would be a lot of playing, and might do me some good, so I joined.

Fast forward a few years, and the band was going strong, and with a new music director at the helm, we became a competition winning band. The new director brought with him a few good players, one of whom was a young woman cornetist who really knew the brass band style, who after auditions, became my stand partner. A few years later, she not only was my stand partner and friend, she became my wife. We still play (in California) in brass bands as well as orchestras and Broadway shows, together.

If it weren't for George Foster, I don't think I'd have had quite the wonderful life I've had since his call.

Thanx, George!! We'll miss you!!!

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**Guy Clark** - March 06, 2025 at 08:28 AM

LL

“ Love, Craig, Angie, Chase & London purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of George V. Foster.



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**Love, Craig, Angie, Chase & London** - March 04, 2025 at 05:39 PM

LL

“ Love, Craig, Angie, Chase & London planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George V. Foster.

Love, Craig, Angie, Chase & London - March 04, 2025 at 05:39 PM

NS

“ Norma and Gene Seymour purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of George V. Foster.



Norma and Gene Seymour - March 04, 2025 at 02:57 PM

NS

“ Norma and Gene Seymour planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George V. Foster.

Norma and Gene Seymour - March 04, 2025 at 02:57 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of George V. Foster.



March 04, 2025 at 02:55 PM