



Dwight (Dave) Blankenship

February 16, 2026

Dwight (Dave) Blankenship, a man of boundless charisma and a natural-born salesman, passed away on February 16, 2026, at the age of 81. Born in Ashland, Kentucky, Dave lived in many places throughout his life before eventually settling in Bradenton, Florida, where he remained for over 50 years.

Dave was a true entrepreneur who spent his life turning ideas into reality. From his work as a jeweler to his investments in real estate, he had an eye for value and a gift for the "deal." He was fascinated by the beauty of gemstones, but he was just as happy with a fishing pole in his hand, enjoying the quiet of the water.

Known for an infectious personality and an abundance of charm, Dave had a way of making an impression on everyone he met. He was a man of big stories and an even bigger heart—a "huge presence" who lived life on his own terms and was well-loved by all of his family.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, Dorothy and Dave Blankenship.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Debbie; his children, Dwight, Cheryl, and Matt; and his daughters-in-law, Kimberly and Colette; and his son-in-law Joe.

He is also survived by his siblings, Jackie, Webb, and Debbie; his grandchildren, Dwight, Makayla, Roman, Gia, and Luca; his great-grandchild, Claire; and his beloved bonus family, Natalia, David, Mia, Emma, and Ron and Carol Dellechiaie, who always welcomed with open arms.

Dave will be missed greatly. A celebration of life will be planned at a future date.

He truly loved you all.

Tribute Wall

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“ *Debbie..we are so sorry to hear about Dave, he had such a great sense of humor and a big personality.. may your memories comfort you. Out thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May he rest in sweet peace*



Ann Tedesco - February 22 at 09:01 AM