



Newsletter From Rep. Matthew J. Shepherd

District 97

March 26, 2026

In Memory of Rep. Berry

The Arkansas House of Representatives is mourning the sudden loss of our colleague and friend, Representative Stan Berry, a man whose life was defined not by titles, but by service, humility, and an unwavering commitment to the people of Arkansas.

Representative Berry was serving his seventh term in the House, representing District 44, which includes portions of Pope and Van Buren counties. He first served from 2003 to 2007 before returning in 2019, continuing his work on behalf of his community until his passing. During the 95th General Assembly, he served on the House Public Transportation Committee, the House State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, where his steady presence and thoughtful approach were deeply respected by colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

But beyond committee rooms and legislative debates, Stan Berry was known first and foremost for his kindness. He made everyone feel welcome, whether it was a fellow lawmaker, a constituent, or a visitor to the Capitol. His work was grounded in a deep love for Arkansas and a sincere desire to improve the lives of the people he served, especially in the rural communities he called home.

His commitment to service began long before his time in the legislature. He served on the Dover School Board, Dover City Council, the Tri-County Water Commission, the Pope County 911 Board, and in the National Guard, and was a charter member of the Dover Lions Club for more than 37 years. His lifelong dedication earned him honors such as Citizen of the Year and the Good Samaritan Award from the Dover Chamber of Commerce, recognition of what those who knew him already understood: Stan Berry truly lived a life of service.

Above all, he was a devoted husband to his wife of more than 30 years, Mona, a loving father to his four children, and a proud grandfather to nine grandchildren.

Representative Berry's legacy is one of compassion, integrity, and quiet leadership. His absence will be deeply felt within the House and across the communities he served so faithfully.

