Dwight grew up in Spruce Pine with lots of summers spent with relatives at Todd and West Jefferson, North Carolina. He married Marion McKinney, daughter of Margaret and Lester McKinney of Little Switzerland in 1956.
Dwight’s Dad bought him a fly tying kit so he could learn to tie the deer hair fly, which was his Dad’s favorite fishing fly. Dwight started tying with a Herter’s vise and scissors when he was 10 years old. He later became nationally known fly tier and was known for the beauty and durability of his flies.

His favorite flies were the Smoky Mountain Forked Tail, Thunderhead, Tennessee Wulff, Hot Creek Special, Prince Nymph, G. Neil Daniels, Sheep Fly, Black Stone, Super Fly and Adams Variant. His favorite fly rod was the Orvis Superfine 6-foot and 8-foot as well as custom rods built by Dwight and Don.

Dwight was blessed with so many memorable fishing days, but the best was when his grandson, Zack, caught his first big trout.

Dwight taught school (Business Education and Placement) at both Rosman and Brevard High Schools until he retired in 1989.

He started Dwight and Don’s Custom Tackle business along with his brother Dwight in 1970.

Don Ray and Dwight were both founding members of Pisgah Chapter Trout Unlimited and the North Carolina Council of Trout Unlimited. Don served in a number of leadership roles.

Stream Blazer Dwight Goodman Howell 1937-1992
Dwight & Don make the New!

Dwight teaching fly tying (1967)
Dwight was most proud of his daughter and grandson who he shared his fishing experiences with whenever possible.

Dwight’s closest fishing buddies included brother, Don Ray; nephew, Kevin Howell; brother-in-laws, Donald McKinney & Ted Ledford; son-in-law, Ricky Hubbard; grandson Zack Hubbard. Dwight also had friends all over the country he considered favorite fishing buddies.