



Sonny Ray Bettis

May 3, 2016

Sonny Ray Bettis, age 53, Lawrenceville, GA passed away on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. He is survived by his wife of thirty-three years, Mary Jane Bettis, Lawrenceville, GA; children, daughters and sons-in-law, Stephanie and Philip Homan, Evanston, IL, Emily and Christopher Fehn, London, England, Kristina and Jonathan Herriman, Dacula, GA; granddaughter, Charlotte Herriman; parents, Charles and Corena Bettis, Warne, NC; sister and brother-in-law, Margaret and David Stalcup, Marble, NC; aunts, Audrey and Mike Prater, Blairsville, GA, Lois Nix, Cleveland, GA, Louise Watkins, Andrews, NC; uncles, Edward and Alice Bettis, Andrews, NC, Jack Martin, Andrews, NC; several nieces, nephews and cousins. Mr. Bettis was born on August 20, 1962 in Murphy, NC. He was a 1980 graduate of Hayesville High School in Hayesville, NC and a 1983 graduate of Devry University. He was employed by Movius/Glenayre Technology as Chief Technology Officer. In his career in telecommunications, he authored over 80 patents and designs. He was a member of Rising Church in Suwanee, GA, an active volunteer for Gwinnett Senior Services and Habitat for Humanity. He was the owner of Bettis Farms and a licensed Beef Master breeder in Pine Log, NC. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at North Gwinnett High School, 20 Level Creek Rd., Suwanee, GA with Pastor Aaron Young officiating (casual attire). Interment will be at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at Pine Log Baptist Church Cemetery, 65 Pine Log Church Road, Brasstown, NC 28902 (Clay County) with Rev. Aud Brown officiating. The

family will receive friends on Friday, May 6, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Flanigan Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: Rising Church for benefit of Feed My Starving Children (which is a non-profit organization) P.O. Box 2943, Suwanee, GA 30024 in memory of Sonny R. Bettis. Sonny lived daily by the motto "Just trying to live my life to the fullest and let God direct my path."

To express condolences, please sign our online guest book at www.flaniganfuneralhome.com. Arrangements by: Junior E. Flanigan of Flanigan Funeral Home and Crematory, Buford, GA (770) 932-1133.

Tribute Wall



“ *Sonny Ray Bettis*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *Love you Sonny see you some day*

edward bettis - May 08, 2016 at 12:00 AM



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“ *Carolyn and I worked with Sonny at BBL/Glenayre. Sonny was the most easy-going, likable guy I have ever known. He never had anything bad to say about anyone and I have never known anyone who had anything bad about him. I will always remember him as a fun loving, hard working man who loved his family and his NC heritage. He will be greatly missed. I hope to be on his softball team in heaven!*

Vic & Carolyn Williamson - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ The world has lost a wonderful, compassionate and impactful human being. I had the pleasure of working with Sonny when he was the CTO of Glenayre. He was always positive, optimistic, caring and polite towards others. The world would be a better place if more of us were like him. I take comfort in knowing that he is with his Lord and watching over all of us.

I know his wife and family will desperately miss his presence and personality. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*With love,
Clarke Bailey*

Clarke Bailey - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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*With love,
Clarke Bailey*

Clarke Bailey - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *?I would like to express my deep regret and grief at the passing of Sonny. He was someone, that has the respect and admiration of everyone who came in contact with him. I will miss him greatly*

Donald Espeut - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *My heart goes out to you and your family. I remember Sonny with a sense of humor... we weren't close but knew that we were neighbors and when walking in the neighborhood and me not paying attention, walking in the middle of the road. He did a quick beep of the horn and I must have jump several feet, as when I turned around he was laughing with a smile of gotcha all over his face. He will be always missed. Jodi*

Jodi Grindstaff - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Mary Jane and family,*

I was so terribly sorry to hear of Sonny's passing. He was one of the nicest people in the Class of 1980 at Hayesville High School. It was so good to see y'all at the 30th class reunion. One thing that shone through in Sonny's social media postings was his Christian faith. I know that he is resting in the arms of his Savior and waiting for the day when you will all be reunited in glory with Him.

*Love and blessings,
Monica Henson*

Dr. Monica Henson - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ We were privileged to call Sonny our friend. He was a shining example of how we should all live our lives day to day. He gave of himself, shared what he had, spoke God's truth, and was a friend to all. He loved everyone but loved his family even deeper. Through the last 9 years, God used him to be an example to all of us. We may never reach the goal of "living like Sonny" but we will try! He admonished us to stop "concentrating on the wrong things" when we were upset or annoyed about something and Rick and I often quote that when things are getting to us. We love you, dear Mary Jane along with your beautiful daughters, sons-in-law and granddaughters. We will forever love and miss Sonny. The world is not a better place without him in it.

Rick and Donna Hach - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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Rick and Donna Hach - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Sonny was always there with a smile and to support his colleagues. Our sincere condolences to his family. Our prayers are with the Bettis family.*

Steven Seitz - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *While your friends and family grieving your passing, all heaven is welcoming you home. Rest in Peace Sonny Bettis.*

Randy Burson - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *caring thoughts are with you in this time of sorrow, may the LORDS blessings be with you*

Bob Weir - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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Bob Weir - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *Mary Jane, Stephanie, Emily, and Kristina:
You all are in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time. We Loved Sonny, and he will always have a special place in our Hearts. If anyone exuded the light and love of Christ, it was your husband and father. His heart for the Lord was such a testimony to us, and made us want to be more faithful, loving followers of Jesus. Our Church and lunch table will not be the same without him. We will continue to lift each of you up in our prayers for peace and comfort from our heavenly father in the days and weeks ahead.
Love, Jerry, Lisa, Aubry, and Maddi Hallmark,*

Jerry and Lisa Hallmark - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *My heart goes out to you Mary Jane and the children and grandchildren! May God bless each and everyone through this time and the days yet to come .
I knew Sonny from 1st grade on he was a wonderful person .*

Janet McClure Santiago - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

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Janet McClure Santiago - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *Extending deep and heartfelt sympathy to the entire Bettis family...*

Candice Timms - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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Candice Timms - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *Praying , sending love to all the family, When the Lord gave you the best in husband
Father and grand-father he blessed you all beyond measure,
Sonny touched so many lives he was a light to many.*

Doris Taylor - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ *Sonny was always kind and Mary Jane and children are so sweet and have suffered a great loss. Thank goodness for another reunion one day that will be everlasting for family and friends. My Sympathy.*

Sandra Lands - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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CF

“ *If I am half the man Sonny was I will be an accomplished happy man. No doubt his good works will continue on the other side as he serves all those he comes in contact with. He will be missed and many are better for having known and learned (by example) from him. Go To and Do...S.W.E.A*

Craig Hasek Family - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *I always enjoyed working with Sonny on several Habitat Builds. He was skilled and tireless carpenter, but he was never too busy for a friendly chat. Sonny will be sorely missed, but the many memories of him will live on in all that knew him.*

Steve Ritchie

Steve Ritchie - May 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *To the Bettis family - my sincerest sympathy in your loss. Sonny will be missed greatly by many. I have fond memories of working with Sonny on building and framing the new showers at Pastor 7's church ministry several years ago. Another wonderful example (and there are countless others) of Sonny giving of his talents and leadership for the benefits of others. God bless!*

Bill Manson

Bill Manson - May 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM