



Wayne Adkins

November 21, 1934 - June 10, 2010

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Beloved husband and father, James Wayne Adkins passed away at the age of 75.

Wayne was born in Lake County, Tennessee and was preceded in death by his parents, Fred Nicholas Adkins and Eunice Boyd Adkins, and his brothers Luther, Leonard, Forrest and Clayton.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Ruth Shelton Adkins, of Russellville, AL; his son, Nicholas Wayne Adkins and his wife Carolyn Vanture Adkins, Nashville, TN; his grandchildren Wyatt James Adkins and Clementine Carter Adkins, of Nashville, TN; his brother, Odie Adkins, Memphis, TN; his brother, Carl Adkins, of Murfreesboro, TN and his brother, LD Adkins, of Union City, TN.

We all knew Wayne as a loving and kind man who gave freely of himself to any one in need. A humble and gentle man, Wayne always saw the best in others. He never sought recognition or praise for his good deeds, he simply chose to help others out of love. Wayne was one of eight boys who grew up on a farm just outside of Union City, Tennessee in “Midway” to the locals.

Wayne's parents taught him the value of hard work and helping your neighbor. Wayne was a star basketball player in high school in Rives, TN. Like all of his brothers, Wayne joined the Army and he was fortunate to serve during peace time in Germany. He was a graduate of Freed-Hardeman in Henderson, TN and The University of Tennessee in Memphis, TN, where he completed his training as a medical technician.

In 1961, Wayne met Ruth Shelton at the North Alabama Hospital in Russellville where they both worked. They were married in 1963 and have been the love of each other's lives ever since.

Wayne was a sales rep with Baxter Scientific Products for 29 years in Memphis. All of the hospitals in Memphis were his customers, and when Wayne retired, it was the end of an era.

Wayne loved to travel. He traveled to all the states in the U.S. He traveled to Africa, Canada, Mexico and Europe. Everywhere Wayne visited, he left it a little brighter because of his smile and friendliness. He hiked the Appalachian trail and the Grand Canyon. He was a avid sailor. He loved to play Rook. And, as many people know, there will never be any better BBQ or smoked turkey as Wayne's.

Wayne's family and friends love him and will miss him very much and look forward to seeing him again in Heaven.

Visitation will be Saturday, June 12th from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Pinkard Funeral Home in Russellville, with the funeral service on Sunday, June 13th at 2:00 p.m. at the North Highlands Church of Christ in Russellville with a graveside service to follow at the Knights of Pythias Cemetery in Russellville. Minister Keith Barnett of the North Highlands Church of Christ in Russellville will officiate along with Minister Ken Joines of the Goodman Oaks

Church of Christ in Southaven, MS.

Serving as pallbearers will be Odie Adkins, Carl Adkins, LD Adkins, Wyatt Adkins, Carl Edward Adkins, Chip Adkins, Jeff Teague and Larry Napier. Honorary pallbearers will be Gary Hester, Johnny Thornton, Gary Gunderman, Mickey Spillers, Chris Wallace and Butch Drake.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN or to the "Lads To Leaders" program at North Highlands Church of Christ in Russellville. The family wishes to express their heart felt thanks to Good Samaritan Hospice, especially Sharon McGee and Ann Lovett. A special thank you to his church family.

Pinkard Funeral Home Russellville will be directing.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 1. 12:00 AM (CT)

North Highlands Church Of Christ
2101 North Jackson Ave.
Russellville, Al

Tribute Wall



“ I was so very sorry to hear of Wayne's passing. Wayne was the "ultimate" southern gentleman. I knew him many years that he called on Baptist Hospital and then Wayne was one of the men instrumental in helping me get a job with Baxter. After that, I had the privledge of working alongside Wayne for many years. He knew everyone wherever we went and was loved and adored by all. I made many road trips with Wayne listening to his stories about Nick and how proud he was of his son and about his love for you Ruth. I pray for comfort and peace for your broken hearts. I know exactly where Wayne is now.....sitting at His Father's feet and meeting and greeting all of his many friends.

God bless you!

Karen Clark##imported-begin##Karen Keeney Clark##imported-end##

June 16, 2010 at 10:39 AM



“ Wayne was a true gentleman. We both worked for Baxter and had many meetings and talks. My best to the family. "A nice man".
J. Paul Hammond##imported-begin##J. Paul Hammond##imported-end##

June 14, 2010 at 10:21 PM



“ I had the blessing of meeting Wayne in 82 as he taught me the business with American Scientific Products in Memphis. I was the rookie and Wayne was the pro and he was always, always willing to teach me all that he knew. Waynes handle was that no matter what hospital we went into.... Wayne knew everyone... Administrator, Lab Mgr, Cooks, Housekeepers, electricians, dock folks.... Never a stranger to Wayne... a true legacy. God rest his soul. He loved and spoke so highly of Ruth and Nick.... speaking of them daily. It was a Godincidence in life that Wayne and I crossed paths... a hero of a man!!!##imported-begin##Jim Rock##imported-end##

June 14, 2010 at 11:35 AM



“ I am so glad that Wayne was part of your lives. He and Mary Alice can continue their friendship in the presence of our Lord. God Bless you and your family.##imported-begin##james newton##imported-end##

June 13, 2010 at 02:27 PM



“ My heart goes out to Ruth and family in their loss of Wayne. Wayne and I were in Medical Technology School, UT the same year. Wayne was one of the finest young men I have ever known and I am sure he left a piece of his heart with all who were privileged to know and love him. May God's peace be with you. LaNelle##imported-begin##LaNelle Wells Lindsey##imported-end##

June 13, 2010 at 01:39 PM



“ My sister, Marcia summed it all up.

We always looked forward to visits from the Adkins boys and their families.

He left you with memories that no one can take from you.

God bless you at this difficult time.##imported-begin##David W. Perkins##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 11:50 PM



“ WE ARE SO SORRY TO HEAR OF YOUR LOSS. THINKING OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. JIMMY, LARRY AND ANNE MARIE HUMPHREYS - CHILDREN OF WAYNE'S COUSIN, MATTIE DEAN BOYD HUMPHREYS##imported-begin##ANNE MARIE HUMPHREYS##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 11:11 PM



“ We are so saddened to hear about Wayne's passing. He was such a precious soul. I will always cherish the times we visited your home and the good meals and sweet fellowship we enjoyed with both of you. You both are so dear to our hearts. Love you Ruth!##imported-begin##Doug and Judy Walker##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 06:20 PM



“ I was saddened to read Wayne's obituary in *The Commercial Appeal* today. I had the privilege of knowing him for several years through his work as a sales rep. I worked for many years in the laboratory at Crittendne Memorial Hospital in West Memphis. I always was happy to see his smiling face walk through the door and appreciated the good service that he and his company gave us. Wayne would make a special effort to be sure we had the laboratory supplies we needed even if it meant his making a "special" trip to West Memphis when we were in a "bind". You never forget service and special kindness like that.

I will always remember him as a very special, caring friend.##imported-begin##sarawyattbundy##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 05:05 PM



“ My mother was Laverne Huffstutter Perkins of Lake County, Tennessee. The Adkins "boys" as Mama called them were always so special to her.

I spent several days with Uncle Fred and Aunt Eunice as a child. I just adored them both. They were so sweet and so special and so much fun to be with.

Our thoughts and prayers will be with you in the days ahead. Mama knew how it was to lose a beloved husband and my brother David and I know how it feels to lose a precious Daddy.

May God bless all of you...##imported-begin##Marcia Perkins Mills##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 02:37 PM



“ DEAR RUTH I AM SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT WAYNE DOUG AND I AND HIS FAMILY ARE PRAYING FOR YOU ALL##imported-begin##JANA WALKER##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 01:13 PM



“ I first met Wayne Adkins in 1958 at the Obion County Hospital where I was a medical technologist. Wayne was in college and worked part time with us. I have never met a finer man in my life. The obituary captured him perfectly. We enjoyed hanging out together before I got married and then he was a great friend to both my wife and myself. He was a very dedicated worker in the short time I knew him before he went to Med Tech. school. Unfortunately, due to our seperation in miles, I only saw him on rare occassions after that, but I still considered him a close friend and will always treasure that friendship. Ironically, On the day he died, Wayne came to my mind and I said to myself that I needed to look him up on the computer and give him a call. I am sorry that I had not done that years before. Wayne has left us but he has left us with a much better world. Nancy and my sympathy goes out to all of your family and all of his friends. Ralph Gilliam, Union City, TN##imported-begin##Ralph Gilliam##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 11:41 AM



“ Wayne called on the laboratory I worked in at Sander's Clinic in Memphis in the late 70's and 80's. He was a great man. I knew immediately that he was a wonderful husband and father. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.##imported-begin##Debbi Scruggs##imported-end##

June 12, 2010 at 09:10 AM



“ I am very sorry to learn of Wayne's passing. I grew up right next to the Adkins family farm in Tennessee. We all went to school together, as well as ball games, movies and just about every thing we did, it was together.

Sincerely,
Jerry Palmer
Charleston, SC##imported-begin##Jerry Palmer##imported-end##

June 11, 2010 at 10:44 PM



“ So sorry to hear of the loss of a very dear friend through the 70's and early 80's. The wonderful times had during our time at Whitehaven can never be forgotten. Our love and sympathy goes with all the family and especially dear Ruth. May God bless you with comforting friends and with God himself holding you in his care.

In loving memory,
Sidney & Carolyn Gresham##imported-begin##Sidney and Carolyn Gresham##imported-end##

June 11, 2010 at 08:59 PM



“ We are so sorry about the loss of Wayne. He was a very nice, friendly man. Our hearts and love go out to Ruth and the rest of the family. We love you, Ruth.##imported-begin##Clifford & Sallie Ferguson##imported-end##

June 11, 2010 at 02:59 PM