



William "Bill" Forrest Bailey

August 8, 1942 - December 8, 2020

William "Bill" Forrest Bailey, age 78, passed away December 8, 2020. Bill grew up in East Nashville and after leaving East High School in the 9th grade he began working at Boone's Wrecker Service and Davis's Wrecker Service in East Nashville. Ever since he was a young man, he always wanted to own Robb Robinson's Texaco Gas Station at 11th & Woodland (5 Points). In 1968, with no money, no collateral except his word, and a midnight job at Jersey Farms Milk Company, Mr. Robinson gave him the opportunity and took a chance on him. He would go to Jersey Farms at 10pm, deliver milk all night long and then go to the Texaco in the morning and work all day. Get shower and couple hours sleep and do it again. He was determined to uphold his end of the Hand Shake. A new wife and baby son was a priority as well but his word was the only thing he had to give and he couldn't mess it up. After buying his first wrecker in 1972 he grew Bailey's Wrecker Service to one of the largest, most successful wrecker services in Nashville with over 25 trucks and 500 commercial accounts. He always stayed humble about his success, stuck to his word and gave back to his community constantly. For years he sponsored youth sports leagues at Shelby Park, Madison Little League, Goodlettsville Little League, Schools, Metro Police Department and helped many families with food, money, Christmas Presents and anything else they may need. He invested in rental property over the years and enjoyed helping others. He would buy a house with the intention of helping them more so than money in his pocket. He continued to drive a wrecker on the midnight shift

until 2010 when he sold Bailey's Wrecker to a friend. He worked every Christmas and Thanksgiving to let the employees be with their families because that's what you do. He stayed true to his word and humbleness until the day he passed away. If you were a longtime Nashville resident, you had to have known the man. East Nashville lost a giant figure, but his legacy lives on through his family. Bill was a member of Riverwood Church of Christ. He will be missed by all who knew him. Preceded in death by his brother, Paul A. Bailey. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Bailey; son, William "Randy" Bailey (Melanie); grandchildren, Tanner Bailey and Kayla Bailey; sister, Nancy Scruggs; brother, Edward L. Bailey (Ushi). Graveside services will be conducted Tuesday, Dec. 15th at 1pm at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, Brother Dustin Welch officiating. Family and friends will serve as Pallbearers. In lieu of flowers please make donations to box55.org, riverwoodchurchofchrist.org, or your favorite charity. Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home, (615)262-3312.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

1150 South Dickerson Rd.
Goodlettsville, TN 37072

Previous Events

Graveside

DEC 15. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens
1150 South Dickerson Road Goodlettsville, TN US
Goodlettsville, TN

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Bill" Forrest Bailey*

October 14, 2022 at 08:02 PM



“ *Brenda I am so sorry to hear about Bill. I knew him for years.
I also was his neighbor .
The kindness person you could ever meet.
All Inglewood will miss him. All That ever met him.
Prayers for you and your Family
Bessie Fox*

Bessie Fox - December 13, 2020 at 06:09 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss Randy, I always enjoyed your Dad's smiling
face. It was a pleasure to work with both of you over the years.
Marlene Fuller*

Marlene Fuller - December 13, 2020 at 06:47 AM



“ *Brenda and Randy so sorry to hear of Bill passing. Our thoughts
and prayers are with you. My children still talk about the times we
came to your house and shot fireworks. Bill was always good to me.
Vernon,Frances and children*

vernon gooch - December 12, 2020 at 07:17 PM

MC

“ One of my favorite customers to wait on at the bank.



Melissa Clouatre - December 12, 2020 at 01:22 PM

MM

“ Mark McCluskey lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Forrest Bailey



Mark McCluskey - December 12, 2020 at 11:49 AM

MM

“ Thanks for always being there for me Bill. Your forever in my memories.

Mark McCluskey - December 12, 2020 at 11:35 AM

MS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Brenda 🙏
Always,
Margie



Margaret (Margie) Simpson - December 12, 2020 at 10:43 AM

Lynn
Ratliff

“ *Bill was a good neighbor to me and Lee.
Him and Lee had become good friends over the years. I always
called him Mr Bailey out of respect for the man he was. Lee called
him Bill.
He will be missed. With heartfelt sympathy for Brenda (Mrs Bailey)
and Randy.
You neighbors Lee and Lynn Ratliff*

Lynn Ratliff - December 11, 2020 at 11:20 PM

Lynn
Ratliff

“ *Lynn Ratliff lit a candle in memory of William
"Bill" Forrest Bailey*



Lynn Ratliff - December 11, 2020 at 11:14 PM

RJ

“ *Roy And Judy Joines lit a candle in memory
of William "Bill" Forrest Bailey*



Roy and Judy Joines - December 11, 2020 at 03:08 PM

RJ

*Our deepest sympathy to Brenda, Randy and family! We are so sorry
for your loss!! He was simply a great person!!*

Roy and Judy Joines - December 11, 2020 at 03:09 PM

CW

“ As I sit here with so many memories of Bill there are too many and he would take me hours to write it I started to work for Bill when I was 12 years old on the milk truck and as time grew I work for him at the service station drove a wrecker and it was not like having a job I enjoyed working with him and calling him my friend. You only come across a couple of people in your life like this man and I will cherish the memories forever. If you really want to know the man play the song I did it my way by Elvis and you will know. Charlie Welch

Charlie Welch - December 11, 2020 at 08:19 AM



“ My name is Lynn Flatt I have known Bill Bailey for 60 years I was 16 when Travis Flatt introduced me to Bill he and Travis were childhood friends. We remained friends all these years. We all have so many memories I could never share them all.

When Bill Bailey found out that due to Travis getting Diabetes and had to be put on insulin he could no longer Drive a truck over the road. He created a job for him running his Mechanic Shop I also came aboard in in 1988. Travis got sick and past away in 1999 Bill being the loving caring person he was shut the shop down and never reopened it.

I worked for them until about 2005 when I retired. They took care of me after Travis pasted like I was there family. As I saw him taking care of many people over the years. Bill built a wonderful legacy over the years but he always shared it in many ways.

Bill's and Brenda's families were very will taken care by Bill and Brenda until there passing.

It is such a shame that 2020 has taken so much from everyone. Bill Bailey deserves to be honored for all his givings over the years and all the people he helped over the years I am so sad that due to COVID no one can pay Tribute to him like they should.

This man has a legacy miles long and he will be missed by so many people.

Brenda, Randy and family I have not got the words to tell you how sad I am and how much he will be missed.

Love you all

Lynn Flatt & Family

Lynn Flatt - December 10, 2020 at 07:55 PM

CF

“ *Chris, Tanya, Abby & Wes Flatt lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Forrest Bailey*



Chris, Tanya, Abby & Wes Flatt - December 10, 2020 at 06:49 PM

CF

Such a wonderful, loving, giving man and family. His story is one of inspiration that if you want something and are willing to make it happen, anything is possible. The world lost a great man. Love and prayers to all the family. Chris, Tanya, Abby & Wes.

Chris, Tanya, Abby & Wes Flatt - December 10, 2020 at 06:52 PM

JB

“ *JENNIFER M BAUER lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Forrest Bailey*



JENNIFER M BAUER - December 10, 2020 at 06:04 PM

JB

“ I WORKED FOR BILL, BRENDA & RANDY FOR 15 YEARS AND I HAVE A LOT OF WONDERFUL MEMORIES BUT THE ONE MEMORY THAT REALLY STICKS WITH ME IS WHEN MY MOM PASSED AWAY AND I WAS AT WORK WHEN I GOT THE NEWS. I CALLED RANDY TO LET HIM KNOW AND WITHIN MINUTES MRS BREN WAS THERE TO HOLD ME AND TELL ME I WOULD BE ALRIGHT THEN BILL COMES IN AND TELLS ME TO GET MY THINGS TOGETHER HE WAS TAKING ME HOME SO I COULD TELL MY KIDS, WE TALKED THEY WHOLE WAY TO PEGRAM HE MADE ME FEEL BETTER. I TOLD HIM THAT I WASN'T SURE HOW I WAS GOING TO MAKE HOME HE TOLD ME NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT THAT IT WOULD GET DONE AND IT DID RANDY STAYED UP ALL NIGHT WORKING ON GETTING ME & MY GIRLS ON A FLIGHT HOME. MRS. BRENDA CALLED AND CHECKED ON ME WHILE I WAS THERE. BILL AND BRENDA & RANDY ARE THE MOST GIVING AND UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE. BILL I AM GOING TO MISS YOU AND I LOVE YOU. THANK YOU FOR ALL THE WONDERFUL MEMORIES

JENNIFER M BAUER - December 10, 2020 at 06:04 PM

RB

“ Bill ,you were the best friend and boss I ever he'd.you never gave up on me even when I did. I'm a better man for knowing and working for you.my second son was named for you ,his name is Bailey Michael .Brenda and Randy God will will make your pain easier as time passes. Joy and I love you guys always.

Ray and Joy Biggs

Ray Biggs - December 10, 2020 at 03:32 PM