



Joe R. Lively

April 11, 1940 - January 20, 2015

ATHENS- Joe R. Lively, 74, of Athens passed away Tuesday, January 20, 2015, surrounded by his family at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, NC after a brief illness. Born April 11, 1940 at Lowell, WV he was the only child of James R. Lively and Sue Bradley Lively.

Joe spent most of his early years in Summers County. He was a member of Keller Presbyterian Church at Lowell and attended Silver Springs Baptist Church in Princeton. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army and a Kentucky Colonel. He was a 1972 graduate of Concord College and worked as a medical technologist at Princeton Community Hospital, retiring in 2002 after 32 years of service. He worked several years as a DJ with Al Harman on the "Bluegrass Classics" program on WAEY radio in Princeton and nearly 10 years on Kicks Country Radio in Bluefield with Jr. Billings on the J & J Bluegrass Classics program. He was an active member of the Appalachian Highland Music Association, emceeding their events and many other musical events.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Donna Lynn Bradley Lively; one son Scott Lively of Sumerco, WV; one daughter, Karen Bailey and husband Junior of Princeton and the pride of his life for the past 14 years, his only grandchild, Jackson Kyle Bailey of Princeton.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. Friday, January 23, 2015 at the Rowland H. Bailey Funeral Chapel of the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton with Rev. Gerald McKinney and Rev. Bobby Bradley officiating. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Princeton where Military Graveside Honors will be conducted by the Mercer County Honor Guard.

Serving as pallbearers will be West Virginia State Troopers David Hill, Dean Brinegar, Jamie Harris, Cody Douglas, Silas Belt and Theodore Kania. Honorary pallbearers will be Dwayne Rudisell, Jr. Billings, Al Harman, Bill Clifton, Dr. Gopal Pardisani and Lewis Story.

It was Joe's request that memorial contributions be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Make A Wish Foundation, 4742 N. 24th Street, Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85016-4862.

Friends may visit with the family from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, January 22 at the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. To view a video tribute to Joe or send the family online condolences please visit www.bailey-kirk.com.

*Please check back after 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 22 to view a video tribute to Mr. Lively

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

1917 West Main St.
Princeton, WV 24740

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 22. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 23. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joe R. Lively*



Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home - January 22, 2015 at 04:57 PM

JL

This is beautiful.....

JoAnne Lively - January 23, 2015 at 08:56 PM

BO

Nice memories of a good man.

Brennon O'Sullivan - January 23, 2015 at 09:38 PM

CM

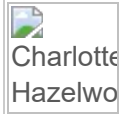
Very nice video tribute of a life well lived. RIP Joe. I am glad to have known you and enjoyed our days in AHMA. My prayers for the repose of your soul and prayers for peace and comfort to Donna and your family. Go rest high.....

Cindy Romano McGraw - January 26, 2015 at 04:48 PM

SC

I met Joe when I was a college freshman at Concord. He worked in the biology lab. I would never have passed Biology 101 without his help. I have always appreciated his help and kindness.

Susan Cobb - January 28, 2015 at 07:58 AM



Charlotte Hazelwood

what a very nice man he was, God Bless his family and friends and comfort your hearts.

Charlotte Hazelwood - January 31, 2015 at 06:35 PM



“ *Joe R. Lively*

December 27, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Joe R. Lively.*



February 04, 2015 at 09:12 AM



“ *Barbara Wyrick lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



Barbara Wyrick - January 23, 2015 at 04:16 PM



“ *James Cook lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



James Cook - January 23, 2015 at 01:22 AM

JC

Joe and my father Leonard Cook (Bood) went to many bluegrass festivals and were life long friends.

Prayers for the Lively Family from the Cook Family

James Cook - January 23, 2015 at 01:26 AM

DB

“*Doug Baker lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



Doug Baker - January 22, 2015 at 02:48 PM

DB

Joe was one of the finest men I have ever met. Enjoyed working with him at Kicks Country

Doug Baker - January 22, 2015 at 02:49 PM

RC

“*Regina Conner lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



Regina Conner - January 22, 2015 at 01:23 PM

BC

“ *Humility, Honesty, and Integrity were all written on Joe's face on the day that he introduced himself to me at the Carterfold in Hiltons, VA. And it became evident during our first brief conversation that he, like me, had a very strong interest in promoting and creating a real appreciation for the best in country music of all types. our friendship developed through an exchange of Christmas cards until Tineke and I built a lakeside house close enough to Athens that allowed personal visits - and Joe and I became real friends- always enjoying those opportunities that allowed us to exchange information and stories that enriched our lives. I have truly lost a friend- and I already miss him.*

Bill Clifton

Bill Clifton - January 22, 2015 at 01:18 PM

JB

Joe Lively was one of the best people i have ever worked with and all the years we worked the radio together he never changed we never had a disagreement everything worked great, and Boy do i miss him he and i were like brothers. God Bless you my Friend

Junior Billings - February 13, 2015 at 02:43 PM



“ *Drema Bishop lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



Drema Bishop - January 22, 2015 at 09:03 AM



I loved listening to Joe , Jr and Al on the Radio and at Music events.He will be greatly missed.my Thoughts and prayers go out to the Family and Friends .

Drema Bishop - January 22, 2015 at 09:06 AM



Praying for the family, Will miss him at the Carter Fold .Nell Kendrick

Nell Kendrick - January 22, 2015 at 09:52 AM



“ Kelli White lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively



Kelli White - January 22, 2015 at 06:39 AM



Praying for this sweet family. Joe was always so nice to me. I am so sorry Donna, Karen, Scott, and Jackson. Praying for peace and comfort at this utmost difficult time. If there is anything I can do please do not hesitate to call.

Kelli White - January 22, 2015 at 06:41 AM



“ Bonnie Crawford Cobb lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively



Bonnie Crawford Cobb - January 21, 2015 at 09:58 PM

TC

“ *Tineke Clifton lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



Tineke Clifton - January 21, 2015 at 08:28 PM

TC

When I think of Joe, I think of all the wonderful produce he and Donna brought to our house over the past summers! Oh those tomatoes and that corn! And this year he had some real special gourds for me, which I treasured! But most special to me was how he could deal with my big watch dog Ramses, who did not make friends with anybody easily, and right away took to Joe! That told me then and there, "This is a GOOD man"!!!

Tineke Clifton - January 21, 2015 at 08:42 PM

LS

“ *LILLIAN C SYKES lit a candle in memory of Joe R. Lively*



LILLIAN C SYKES - January 21, 2015 at 06:10 PM

MF

“ Raymond and I became friends with Donna and Joe several years ago at the Carter Fold at Hiltons, Virginia. We were always anxious to get together with them and enjoy the music and the atmosphere of the great talents that gathered there. Joe was an encyclopedia of information about the music and the musicians that he loved, and he enjoyed sharing his interests with others. We especially loved visiting over biscuits and gravy at a local restaurant, laughing and sharing about family and friends.

For a number of years we met at the Museum of Appalachia. Aside from the music we spent time together just visiting. Joe was a lover of books and he enjoyed the challenge of a good discussion on a variety of subjects.

Joe was a very personable guy. He loved his family, was loyal to his friends, and the history of the music that he enjoyed and honored.

He loved peanuts in the shell, bountiful buffets, and a good music festival, rain or shine.

Joe will be greatly missed.

Raymond and Mary Ruth, friends from Missouri

Mary Flanary - January 21, 2015 at 05:49 PM

MY

MY HUSBAND AND I MET JOE THROUGH MY BROTHER JR. BILLINGS. JOE WAS A VERY NICE MAN, ALWAYS THE SAME ANYWHERE YOU WOULD MEET HIM. HE AND HIS SWEET WIFE DONNA, ATTENDED SEVERAL OF OUR FAMILY REUNIONS, ALWAYS ENJOYED THEM !! FRIENDS, MALLORY AND LINDA YOST.

MALLORY AND LINDA YOST - January 22, 2015 at 01:04 AM

AW

*So sorry about your loss joe was a fine man and even a better friend when I first went to work at pch he was always kind an would always help with any question that I had about the lab my husband and I was also around him at a lot of music gatherings
I know he will be very missed by the people who loved him
Al and Debbie White*

Al and Debbie White - January 22, 2015 at 10:46 AM

AH

Joe Lively taught me more about music and the people of music than anyone I know. I have always said it was Joe that put the the Classic in Bluegrass Classics...without him it would have been just another music program...when the program went off the air a part of each one of us died that night...we really looked forward to that time...the music and the people...and now we have have lost one of the greatest ambassadors of bluegrass and old time music there ever lived...God Bless you Joe Lively...I love You brother and I will see you again...thank you for all you did for me..

al harman - January 22, 2015 at 01:40 PM

JB

You are very right Al he was the best Jr.

Junior Billings - February 13, 2015 at 02:48 PM