Weldon "Wonnie" Graham

November 10, 1929 - September 10, 2023

November 10, 1929 – September 10, 2023

Wonnie, what some people called him, was born in Cherokee, WV but lived most of his life in Lashmeet, WV. He was the son the late Howard Ervin Graham and Gladys Mae Walker Graham.

He graduated in 1948 from Matoaka High School. “Wonnie” worked for Brooks Construction, Norfolk & Western Railroad, United States Steel in Delaware, and helped run the Caboose Restaurant for his Mom and Dad in Lashmeet. His final job before retirement was with the West Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission out of Charleston, WV where he worked for 21 years at the Thornhill Store, 7 years at the Matoaka Store, and 7 years at the Princeton Store. He worked a total of 35 years for the state and retired in 1987.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, William Howard “Billy” Graham; sister, Elizabeth “Betty Gay” Graham Scott; ex-wife, Phyllis “Eloise” Pennington Graham; and granddaughter, Chelsea LeAnn Akers.

Survivors include his daughter, Lori Ann Graham Akers Barton and husband, James Barton, III who he resided with for the past 7 years in Princeton, WV; granddaughter Tesla Shea Akers Southcott and husband Austin Southcott;

great-granddaughter Taytum Shea Southcott of Princeton; granddaughter, McKenzie Jo Akers Newman and husband, Jason Newman of Prichard, WV.

Also his daughter, Aleta Jo Graham Crotty and husband, William Jack of Princeton, WV; grandson, Brent Adam Crotty of Washington, D.C.; granddaughter, Kristen Michelle Crotty Wilburn and husband Josh Wilburn; and great-grandsons, William “Cole” Wilburn and Joshua “Jett” Wilburn of Princeton, WV.

“Wonnie” enjoyed watching sports, especially basketball, baseball, and Nascar. His most enjoyment was traveling with the Matoaka Boys Basketball Team to games while hauling the Cheerleading Squad with him. He always provided food for those who could not. He loved visiting his family and friends while sharing his wealth of knowledge of “Knowing Everyone” especially when politics were involved. “Wonnie” never met a stranger. If he did, he would know you and your family before the conversation ended and you would now be considered a “new friend.” He shared his gift of talking with everyone and loved to show his respect for others at funeral home gatherings. You could always count on him passing out his favorite green spearmint candy. This world will miss a good man who lived a good life.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 Friday, September 15, 2023 at Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton, WV with Connie Graham Black, officiating.

Friends may visit from noon until the service hour.

Interment will be at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton.

Arrangements by Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.bailey-kirk.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **15**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

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

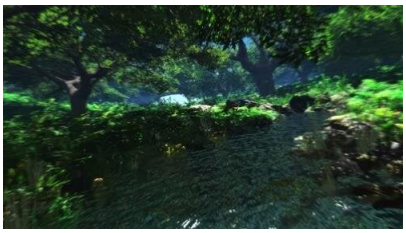
Funeral Service

SEP **15**. 1:00 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 Weldon "Wonnie" Graham



Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home - September 15, 2023 at 06:26 PM

Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham.

September 14, 2023 at 12:38 PM

A Memorial Tree was planted in honor of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham.

September 14, 2023 at 12:38 PM

Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham.

September 14, 2023 at 10:20 AM

JS

Judy and Charles Sammons purchased the Emer ald Garden Basket for the family of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham.

Judy and Charles Sammons - September 12, 2023 at 07:52 PM

JS

Judy and Charles Sammons planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham.

Judy and Charles Sammons - September 12, 2023 at 07:52 PM

MS

Mark A. Shrewsbury lit a candle in memory of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham

Mark a. shrewsbury - September 12, 2023 at 10:42 AM

Delores Harmon lit a candle in memory of Weldon "Wonnie" Graham

Delores Harmon - September 11, 2023 at 10:05 PM

PP

Laura and James and family we are so sorry for your loss your Das was the sweetest man I ever met after I took him home that day he always held a special place in my heart and when he come up to buddy's car lot he would always stop by here Pete would always turn his vehicle around for him and helped him onto rt 20 and one more thing he raised a beautiful girl named Laura that will always hold a special place in my heart to Laura I hope the Lord helps you all through this sad time hold you all and give you comfort, peace and know that we are here if you needs us
Love You Laura

PETE AND PEGGY.MATTHEWS - September 11, 2023 at 10:00 PM

ED

Earnie was a good friend loved talking to him at my Brothers work at the car lot my brother really loved this feller!!!!

ednamckinney - September 11, 2023 at 10:44 PM

ED

Winnie spelled his name wrong sorry

ednamckinney - September 11, 2023 at 10:45 PM

JW

A man I will never forget , I am so sorry for his family .If you were in need he was there . A proud and a good man.I don't have to say anything else Wonnie's life spoke for itself.

Jerry williams - September 11, 2023 at 09:54 PM

EB

Lori Ann and Aleta Jo, I'm so sorry for your loss. From the time we were little, I remember your dad was always laughing and smiling any time I saw him. And he hadn't changed much when we crossed paths just a few years ago. May the Lord bless you in the days and months ahead with happy memories of the good times you had with him.

Emma (Sanders) Bennett - September 11, 2023 at 09:34 PM

BJ

Wonnie definitely knew no strangers. He knew everybody and everybody knew him. A good man and a great neighbor. He surely will be missed by the Democrats in Mercer County. Condolences to the Graham family. RIP my friend.

Barry Jenkins - September 11, 2023 at 07:44 PM

RJ

Dear Lori, James, and family we are so sorry for your loss. You are right the first time I met him we talked a few minutes and he knew a lot of my relatives! That was one day in your driveway. May the lord wrap his loving arms around you as the days go by. Praying for everyone. Love your friend Rose Juba

Rose Juba - September 11, 2023 at 06:03 PM