



Sam D. Willis

June 9, 1945 - May 4, 2017

Mr. Sam D. Willis of Colt, Arkansas, died Thursday, May 4, 2017 in Jonesboro, Arkansas at St. Bernard's Regional Medical Center, he was 71.

Sam was born on June 9, 1945 to Mr. Samuel "Bun" Willis and Mary Delones Willis in Powhatan, Arkansas. In 1969, he married Linda Phillips, they have two children, Mark and Jason. Sam was a retired minister having pastored at Haynes Baptist Church, Sneed Street Baptist Church in Marked Tree, Union Grove Baptist Church in Jonesboro, and McElroy Baptist Church in Wynne. He had lived in Memphis, Marked Tree, Jonesboro, Cherry Valley and Wynne. He was a member of Fitzgerald Crossing Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Phillips Willis of the home, sons, Mark Willis of Jonesboro, Jason Willis and wife Liza of Wynne, brothers, Don Willis of Wynne, and Jerry Willis of Harrison, grandchildren Lexi, Ethan, Kason, Keaton, and Luke Willis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel "Bun" and Mary Willis, brothers, Lendon and Bill Willis and sisters, Dean and Marilyn.

Visitation will be Friday, 6 to 8 PM at Kernodle Funeral Home. Funeral services will be Saturday, May 6, 2017 at 2 PM with burial in Loughridge Cemetery.

Kernodle Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. You may sign an online guestbook at www.kernodlefh.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home
315-325 E. Union Avenue
Wynne, AR 72396
(870) 238-2323
kernodlefuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.kernodlefh.com/>

Funeral service

MAY 6. 2:00 PM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home
315-325 E. Union Avenue
Wynne, AR 72396
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Interment

MAY 6 (CT)

Loughridge Cemetery
Hwy 284
Colt, AR 72326

Tribute Wall

LE

“ Brother Sam, was a true man of God. God gave him a wonderful family and a love for people and God's word. I loved him and his family from the first day I met them. He is now walking and talking with his Jesus that he lived for. I truly believe he is watching down from heaven and saying don't weep for me, I am with Jesus. Knowing Bro. Sam he is telling his jokes and everyone is laughing. I am praying for all of the family..Linda Edwards

Linda Edwards - May 05, 2017 at 07:24 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Betty Coad - May 05, 2017 at 05:54 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album Sam Willis



Betty Coad - May 05, 2017 at 05:53 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Betty Coad - May 05, 2017 at 05:48 PM

PC

“ *I grew up with Sam in Cherry Valley. He was a few years older than me, but was always just as sweet and kind as a kid/teenager as he was as an adult. I have many fond memories of him as well as his sweet family. Rest in peace dear friend. I bet you and Don Coad are playing in the band again. Praying for the family.*
Phyllis Love Carter

Phyllis Love Carter - May 05, 2017 at 05:20 PM

PB

“ *Bro Sam was a special friend and Dale and I will miss him. When he wasn't able to preach at Sneed Street Baptist due to his health Dale helped move him and his family back to the place the family lives now. If there was ever a dedicated preacher, Bro Sam is that preacher. He never complained, never said a negative thing about anyone, a great prayer warrior if you told him anything in confidence he didn't tell anyone but his Lord.*
always had a smile even when he didn't feel good and that was quite often. Our prayers for Linda, Jason and Mark and their families. Bro Sam is seeing all the sites and saints he has preached about all these years and most of all no more sickness, praise God.

Love and Prayers
Dale and Pat Ball

Pat and Dale Ball - May 05, 2017 at 04:03 PM

DS

“ Brother Sam was my pastor when I was saved 35 years ago, baptized me and was best man at my wedding. He encouraged me to grow in the Lord and His Word and helped me understand how to deal with discouragement and disappointments. He was a great encouragement to everyone he met and always willing to listen. He and Ms. Linda were like a part of my family who cared for me as I struggled to raise two toddlers and follow God. What an inspiration to everyone and I will see you again in our Heavenly Home. Thank for Brother Sam and Sister Linda Willis along with Mark and Jason and their families. May the God of all comfort embrace you.

Doug Skipper - May 05, 2017 at 12:48 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Sam D. Willis.



May 05, 2017 at 09:35 AM

PW

“ Sam Willis was a kind & generous person, a person who cared about his family and friends and would do anything for you. He was my pastor for numerous years at Sneed Street Missionary Baptist Church. Bro. Sam preached from the heart and Love God with all his being. I can still see him in the pool pit with his bible held in his hand, with his eyes closed in pray, taking his hand to move his hair off his forehead, pleading with people to except our Jesus "Don't walk out that door today without knowing Jesus, because you may never get another chance". He was involved in our youth group, vacation bible(he loved them cookies) and the kids, he loved to joke around. His love for his parenishars was beyond measures. Bro. Sam and Linda have always been a Hugh part of my family. I love this family with all my heart. Bro. Sam was the one that Baptist me and my brother Billy after we accepted our Lord and Savior. He married Paul and me(34 years ago) and Billy and Mary Ann(36 years ago). He preached my Mammaw Ward's funeral and he was there when my daddy took his last breath and held me when I cried. Bro Sam was always just a phone call away no matter the hour.Linda and him have always been such good friends with my mom Jeanette. He was a person who never changed, he was always the same no matter where or when you saw him. You knew he loved God and his family. I could go on and on about this sweet man and his precious family. Bro. Sam I will see you again one day and I so look forward to that moment. Linda, Jason, & Mark you are in my thoughts and prayers, I love you all so very much.

Patty Houchin Walker

Patty Houchin Walker - May 05, 2017 at 08:51 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Sam D. Willis.*



May 05, 2017 at 06:59 AM



“ *Prayers for all of you as b you face this pain of loss.. I'm so very sorry*

Ron and Rhonda Lamb - May 05, 2017 at 05:59 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sam D. Willis.*



May 04, 2017 at 08:44 PM



“ *Sam was our friend and our pastor for a time. I will never forget those young years when he and my brother had that little band. They are together again in heaven. I'm so sorry for your loss and I know he will be missed. Sam was a wonderful man in so many ways. We've lost a good one. Ken and Kay Wolfe*

Ken Wolfe - May 04, 2017 at 07:43 PM

BC

“ So sorry for the loss. He is in a better place now. For Linda and all the family my prayers are with you. Betty Coad

Betty Coad - May 04, 2017 at 07:38 PM

GV

“ Willis Family:

Back before I retired and I worked in public places it was always a joy to look up and see Sam coming your way. I knew instantly the next few minutes were going to be both interesting and lots of fun. Sam was one of a kind and I am just one of many who will miss him dearly. Now he has gone home to be with his Saviour and one-time employer and I hope knowing that brings peace to his Family. My thoughts and prayers are with Linda and the Children. May God Bless.



George Vance

GEORGE VANCE - May 04, 2017 at 06:32 PM

VT

“ Bro. Sam was special pastor, friend. He was my pastor at Sneed Street Missionary Baptist Church for several years. He was a pastor that preached fire and brimstone. He baptized me in 1979. We need more preachers like him today. Ms. Linda and family I am lifting you up in prayer. Love all of you. Vivian Garrison Humphries Tacker

Vivian Tacker - May 04, 2017 at 05:47 PM

TW

“ *Bro Sam was an Anchor in the Lord. He kept things steady. We loved him very much.*

Bro Gary & Tish Woodard

Tisha Woodard - May 04, 2017 at 04:57 PM