



Bill Bratley

August 24, 1952 - August 15, 2019

Bratley – Bill Bratley, age 66 of Grayson, GA, passed away on Thursday, August 15, 2019. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:30 PM on Sunday, August 18, 2019 at Grace New Hope Church, 1766 New Hope Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30045. Rev. Mark Hornby & Rev. Lee Lovett will officiate. The family will receive friends from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM on Saturday, August 17, 2019 at Highlands ARP Church, 830 Grayson Parkway, Grayson, GA 30017. Mr. Bratley was a minister of the gospel for 35+ years, serving at Alta Woods Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS; Pinewoods Presbyterian Church in Pensacola, FL; and Ingleside Presbyterian Church in Lawrenceville, GA. Most recently he worked as a Logistics Coordinator with Essential Ingredients in Lawrenceville, GA. Mr. Bratley is survived by his wife of 45 years, Rachel I. Bratley; sons & daughters-in-law, David & Valerie Bratley, Grayson, GA; Jonathan & Laura Bratley, Woodstock, GA; Tim & Julie Bratley, Chicago, IL; brother, Forrest Bratley, Jr., Jackson, MS; sister, Mary Ann McCurley, Woodville, MS; and grandchildren, Will, Zach, Anna Joy, Jamie, Aaron, Nicholas, Gabriel, John Paul, Margaret, and Tucker. In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations be made to Highlands ARP Church, Soup Night, at the address above. Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 300 Simonton Road, S.W., Lawrenceville, GA 30046. 770-962-3100. Please leave online condolences at <http://www.stewartfh.com>.

Events

AUG **Visitation** 04:00PM - 06:00PM

17

Highlands Presbyterian Church

830 Grayson Parkway, Grayson, GA, US, 30017

AUG **Memorial Service** 02:30PM

18

Grace New Hope

1766 New Hope Rd, Lawrenceville, GA, US, 30045

Comments



“ On the eve of your "passing" (when reassured you were "fine" on the 1st of August 2019), missing you and your untimely/unforeseen and far too early demise.

When one "Googles" a friend and finds "2wks after the fact" they are "deceased w/no info alluding as to burial/cremation"; it's "hard" to think about the "future".

At least you missed out on the 2020 pandemic...

A

A - August 14 at 08:00 PM



“ Rachel, I well remember my brother Bill as a source of laughter and light. This coming from a deeply held belief in Christ and the knowledge that being Christian didn't necessarily require religiosity, He took his faith seriously, never himself. Had I learned more from him earlier in life my own life's experience might have been far less rocky. God bless you and your family Rachel.

Jimmy Suber - November 28, 2019 at 08:25 PM



“ We are thankful for Bill's service to the Lord as he ministered to our boys during their teen years at Pinewoods. We are so sorry to the family for their loss.

Jerry and Kathy Knight

Kathy Knight - October 25, 2019 at 10:02 PM



“ Dear Rachel and family,
We received a letter from Margaret Baldwin today letting us know about Bill. We are so sorry for your great loss. He was an outstanding part of the youth group when I was there as Youth Director. I always admired his many talents and especially his musical abilities. He touched so many lives including ours. You and he will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Love,
Bud and Helen Cathey

Bud and Helen Cathey - September 06, 2019 at 07:03 PM



“ Dear Rachel, Bud, Mary Anne and families,
I am in tears as I write this. I had often thought of y'all as my husband and I would pass through the Atlanta area on our way to his parents. I wanted to come through at a time so I could stop in y'all's church and surprise you. This is just another example of not putting off going to see someone when you think of them. Just know that I love you and will lift you and your families up to our loving Father and ask that He wrap His loving, comforting arms around you and give you the strength and peace to face the future.. I have so many memories of COL and the wonderful testimony that we were able to give through this amazing group of kids. What started with Bud Cathey, and continued with dear John Kay, reached its pinnacle under Bill's guidance. He had such a God-given talent for picking the right songs and choreography was so much fun.

martha Porch Huggart - August 22, 2019 at 09:35 PM



“ Rachel, you and your family are in my prayers. I have so many wonderful memories of Bill and of you from our early years at Forest Hill.

Cindy Brummett Baugh - August 18, 2019 at 09:46 PM



“ we want to express our sympathy from the hodes family in Algoma. bill was my youth director when I was young. I will remember his stand and influence on my life. thank you for allowing my family to express their sympathy.

wayne hodes

Algoma ms

wayne hodes - August 18, 2019 at 08:36 PM



“ Rachel:
Though it has been many years since we saw each other I want to you know I am thinking about you and your family. You and Bill were such wonderful high school friends and he was always the most progressive thinker in our Forest Hill High School crowd. It is so hard to believe that he had to leave this earth so early in life. May you find inner peace and strength in the 45 years you had together. Sending you hugs.
Cheryl Stroud

Cheryl Stroud - August 18, 2019 at 04:36 PM



“ Bill was an anchor to a kid in high school while I attended Altawoods Presbyterian. He lead by a quiet example that I admired and appreciated. Although I didn't tell him enough. I was kept from many things I shouldn't have done by his presence, even when he wasn't there. I know that Bill is visiting with my Dad and Mom in God's presence, I can hear them singing praise to God, even now.

Glen Nalley - August 18, 2019 at 01:44 PM

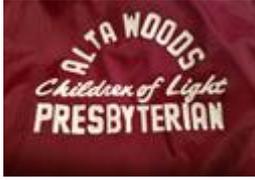


“ Please accept our deepest sympathy from 2nd cousins up North. Blessings to entire family - Kay and Frank Killea, Dianne Knauf

Kay Killea - August 18, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“ Rachel,
May the Peace of the Lord be with you and your family during this time of mourning and celebration of Bill's Life... he was loved by many, and touched more people's lives than most will ever know. Godspeed #LoveOneAnother #LoveYourNeighbor #LoveYourEnemies #being1race #TheHumanRace #Being1Church #ChildrenOfLight



Shane McNair - August 17, 2019 at 10:30 PM



“ Rachel and Family:
We were together in COL at Alta Woods. Bill was a brave person- brave to take on the leadership of a crowd of young people, brave to live in a fishbowl of constant witness as a Christian leader, brave to try innovative musical styles, brave to invest all of himself in young people who loved and followed him. He didn't hesitate to be authentic and not gloss over the frailties of the human condition in a fallen world. I think that is one reason he inspired such loyalty. I give glory to God for his life and ministry, and pray that these sweet memories will comfort you. Love, Elise Jones Turner

Elise Jones Turner - August 17, 2019 at 09:38 PM



“ Rachel , I am stunned to hear of Bill's passing. I'm always buoyed by all the memories I have of him (and you) Fromm FHHS and COL. he was a well-loved man. I'll be carrying you and yours in the coming weeks in my prayers and in my heart.

jacqui katool - August 17, 2019 at 06:18 PM



“ Nobody could sing and play "Oh Happy Day" like Bill could. I imagine he's leading the choir in Heaven in that song today.

Carrie Watts - August 17, 2019 at 05:43 PM



“ Rachel and family, David and I are in total shock. Heartbroken to say the least. No words, must many memories flooding our every thought. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. We love you. Cile & David

Cile Alexander - August 17, 2019 at 04:35 PM



“ Condolences to the family. John and Dianne Huey

John Huey, - August 17, 2019 at 03:12 PM



“ I am Laura and was Rev. B.I. Anderson's granddaughter. Rachel, you taught me Sunday School and I remember Bill leading the children's sermon in church. I still remember one of his sermons to us kids. I can't believe it's been 45 years since you got married..I remember going to the wedding...time goes so fast. What a beautiful life he lead and how proud you must be of him. So sorry to hear this and much love to you and your family from all the Anderson's.

Laura Thibodeaux Triggs - August 17, 2019 at 02:31 PM



“ Rachel I am so sorry to hear about Bill. Praying for you and your family.



Cindy Johnston - August 17, 2019 at 01:34 PM



“ Loved working with Bill, he was a great guy and a wonderful person to talk to, he will be missed. God bless your family.

Michael Cutchens - August 17, 2019 at 12:12 PM



“ So very sorry. Prayers for the entire family.
Blessings & Shalom
Richard Catt

Richard Catt - August 17, 2019 at 11:54 AM



“ Rachel, our prayers and love go to you and your family. We praise God for the ministry Bill had at Alta Woods and the spiritual guidance he gave, not only to the youth, but to all age groups. He shared his bountiful gifts with enthusiasm and will always be remembered with love and admiration.
Gabe and Elizabeth Green

Gabe and Elizabeth - August 17, 2019 at 11:41 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss! You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers! Bill was wonderful youth pastor and I was blessed to have had him as an incredible influence in my life! Thank you Rachel for teaching us all to be Godly Woman! My prayers and heart go out to you love Georgia West Roeder

Georgia West Roeder - August 17, 2019 at 06:48 PM



“ Rachel, you and your family are in our prayers. I know that each day God will walk right beside you. We have such wonderful memories of your time at Pinewoods. The Sunday night singing out of the folders and the choir tours and time our kids spent at your home. The Lord used you all in so many lives. We are so sorry for your loss and love and prayers to you all.

Jane Breault - August 20, 2019 at 08:13 AM



“ Rachel, I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. My heart and prayers go out to you and your family. I have thought of you and Bill so often over the years and what an impact the 2 of you had on my young life spiritually all those years ago at Alta Woods. I will always cherish that time in my life and being a part of COL and being in the youth group under his spiritual guidance and leadership. None of it would have been the same had it not been for Bill. He touched many lives in his own special way!! May God lift you up during this time. Much love to you, Tina

Tina Morrison Bedwell - August 17, 2019 at 10:56 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bill Bratley.



August 17, 2019 at 09:33 AM



“ Rachel, we will be praying for you in the coming months. We so enjoyed ministering with you and Bill at Alta Woods. Boy, did he have a BIG personality and was loved by all. He was a legend with COL and so many of those young adults (who are now old adults) still speak of the ministry he had to them. May the Lord give you peace and comfort at this difficult time.

Much love,

Carol and Steve Jussely

Carol Steve Jussely - August 17, 2019 at 09:05 AM



“ Rachel, Bill was one of my favorite classmates. He was so kind and friendly, and his love for Christ was so apparent. My prayers are with you and your family.

Linda Farrar King - August 17, 2019 at 12:28 PM



“ Rachel I am so sorry to hear of the loss your family is feeling now. You and Bill were our second parents through COL. So many of us over the years have discussed how special that time was in our lives. We had something I only wish my children could have had. Nothing compares to it because it was you and Bill that made it that way. Thank you. His memory is very dear to me. The time spent, COL, the Bible studies, the music still plays in my head. Oh my, and the looks he gave me when I was always late for practice! They are precious memories because of him. Thank you for that. I know your family will miss him deeply but his memories are always special ones. What a wonderful blessed life! I'm grateful he shared it with me and so many others. Your family will be in my prayers

Debbie Means Minton - August 17, 2019 at 08:37 AM



“ I thank God for Bill. He was one of the most influential people in my life. I loved learning from him in all those youth Bible Studies in the upper room. Through COL he gave me my first opportunities to speak behind a microphone which carried an extreme amount of risk for him. He wanted us all to believe that God could use us. So thank you Bill Bratley for discipling me through my most vulnerable years. You loved me well.

Chuck - August 17, 2019 at 06:16 AM



“ Tracy Reid sent a virtual gift in memory of Bill Bratley



Tracy Reid - August 16, 2019 at 11:56 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss Rachel. He was a great person to know and work for at ingleside. My prayers and love. Dianne Wilson

dianne wilson powell - August 16, 2019 at 11:39 PM



“ We are so sorry to learn of his death prayers for you all. Robin and Raynor Edwards

Robin Edwards - August 16, 2019 at 11:07 PM



“ So sad to hear of the passing of Bill. He always had a smile and funny stories to share. I was blessed to have known and worked with him. Sending prayers for family and friends. Tammy



Tammy DeTray - August 16, 2019 at 10:00 PM



“ A true man of God and a very dear friend!!

Charlie Anthony Brown - August 16, 2019 at 08:10 PM



“ Rachel and family, a good friend in Jackson called to let me know of Bill's passing. We grew up together at Alta Woods, took piano and performed at recitals together, followed Christ seriously as teenagers and then later we both decided to go into ministry, Bill as a pastor and I as IVCF staff. My whole family loved Bill. Paul and I plan to attend the service on Sunday. May God's peace and reassurance rest upon all of you. Margaret Baldwin Tokunaga

Margaret Tokunaga - August 16, 2019 at 07:20 PM



“ Rachel and family, so sorry we cannot be at the services for Bill. Please know our prayers are with you all during this time. Much love, Mike and Sue Ann Oaks

Sue Ann Oaks - August 16, 2019 at 05:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bill Bratley.



August 16, 2019 at 04:52 PM