



Gaylord (Bud) Grover

May 28, 1951 - March 25, 2024

With heavy hearts, we bid farewell to Gaylord "Bud" Grover, a man whose life was a tapestry of love, dedication, and boundless generosity. Born on May 28, 1951 in Harvard, Illinois, and raised in the village of Capron, Illinois, Bud grew up with siblings Linda, Beverly, and Dennis.

His journey through life was marked by profound milestones: graduating from North Boone High School in 1969, his brief but impactful stint in semi-professional football, and his noble service in the Marines from November 1970, where he dedicated two years actively and four years in inactive duty.

In the summer of 1971, fate introduced him to his beloved Rosemarie. Upon meeting Rosemarie, Bud quietly whispered in her ear, "I'm going to marry you someday," and they tied the knot on May 27, 1972. Together, they welcomed their precious children, Tamara and Nicholas, and built a home filled with warmth and laughter.

Bud's career was a testament to his compassion and dedication. From his tenure at Boys Republic, where he touched the lives of countless at-risk youth, to his roles at the Department of Juvenile Justice and the El Monte Police Department, Bud exemplified unwavering commitment to serving others.

His passion for making a difference extended beyond borders, as evidenced by his travels to Denmark to share his expertise in youth rehabilitation. In 2012, he immortalized his wisdom in "Your House is a Mess, and so are your Kids," leaving a legacy that continues to inspire.

Bud retired prematurely in June 2013 to journey across the southeast, following his granddaughter as she played college basketball. Retirement granted Bud the precious gift of time, which he spent embracing every moment with boundless enthusiasm. Whether on the golf course, the pickleball court, or on family beach trips, Bud's zest for life was contagious. His presence lit up every room, and his genuine kindness touched the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing him.

In his final journey to the Kingdom of Heaven on March 25th, 2024, Bud leaves behind a legacy of love and compassion that will forever echo in the hearts of his cherished wife, Rosemarie, his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, and countless relatives and friends.

Though he may have departed from our midst, Bud's spirit will live on in the countless lives he touched, his memory a beacon of light guiding us through the darkness of grief. Rest in peace, dear Bud, knowing that your love will continue to illuminate our lives for eternity.

Bud is survived by his beloved wife, Rosemarie Grover, Bud leaves behind a legacy of love and family. He is also survived by his daughter, Tamara Banks [Robert Robinson], and his son, Nicholas Grover. Bud was adored by his grandchildren: Gia Banks [Melina], Oliver Banks Jr [Casey], Quentin Banks [Cirayha], James Goodroe, Kaia Robinson, and Laney Goodroe. Additionally, he was blessed with great-grandchildren Oliver Banks III and Claire Banks. Bud is fondly remembered by his sister, Linda Chambers [Gary], and his brother, Dennis Grover [Debbie], along with numerous nieces, nephews,

cousins, and friends.

Bud was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ivan and Doris Grover & Harry and Mary Galvin, his parents, Claire and Jane Grover, his sister, Beverly Foster, and his brother, Michael Walley.

“Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our hands. It hopes we've learned something from yesterday” - John Wayne

“I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13)

The family has requested that no flowers be sent. In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation in Gaylord's honor to Life Bridge Christian Church, 206 South Hammond Drive, Monroe, GA 30655 or to Boys Republic, 1907 Boys Republic Drive, Chino Hills, CA 91709.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Life Bridge Christian Church
206 South Hammond Drive
Monroe, GA 30655

Memorial Service

APR 7. 12:00 PM (ET)

Life Bridge Christian Church
206 South Hammond Drive
Monroe, GA 30655

Tribute Wall



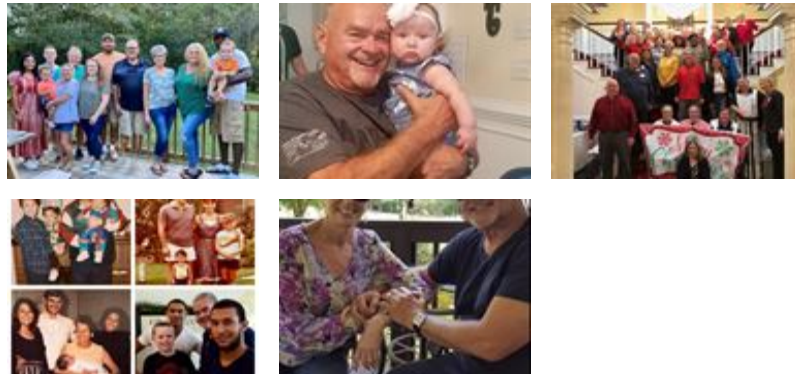
“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gaylord (Bud) Grover*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - April 02, 2024 at 10:30 AM



“ *87 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - April 02, 2024 at 09:46 AM

DG

“ *David and Vicki Gruber purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gaylord (Bud) Grover.*



David and Vicki Gruber - March 29, 2024 at 06:12 PM

DG

“ David and Vicki Gruber planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gaylord (Bud) Grover.

David and Vicki Gruber - March 29, 2024 at 06:12 PM

CC

“ Coleen C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gaylord (Bud) Grover.

Coleen C. - March 29, 2024 at 04:53 PM

LL

“ I have so many memories of Gaylord (and Rosemarie) starting in my youth. They were great friends of my parents, with he and my dad working at Boy's Republic. They trusted me to babysit Tammy, and when I met my husband, they welcomed him into the family immediately! Camping trips were so much more fun when they went too! My best memory is of Gaylord and my husband chasing after teenagers in the middle of the night, after they tried to steal our boogie boards! If they had caught them, Gaylord would have changed their wicked ways for sure, as he had such an amazing heart when it came to wayward teens❤️ You will be missed by so many people whose lives you touched, Bud. But my heart, while broken, has some peace knowing you are with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ✝️ See you again someday Sir. 💙

Lisa Lewis-Lage - March 29, 2024 at 12:53 PM

JP

“ Hey Bud Steelers are the best.

Janeen Painter - March 29, 2024 at 10:46 AM

PV

“ I SHARE memories of our Beloved Bud and my CONDOLENCES are both in order. Seeing you both was one thing. Always together was another. I start out like that because they lived along with other friends at the same apartments residence of my parents. Bud and Rose were not just friends but became FAMILY to not just my FAMILY but FAST to myself and my family. His bigger than LARGE HEART made it so easy to talk to him about anything. The Best memories I could say I ever had with him was that of being invited to Bible study in the apartment where they lived and my mom and dad showing up. Which the two my dad and him being very close. Both Bude and Rose attended my Dad's celebration of Life. I was invited to his book review and signing. I'll never forget ALL the people who stood up and spoke so highly of him. I too purchased his book and went back to the house after reading it to buy another to give to a best friend and he gave it to me. Rosemary, I just want you to know, The LOVE you BOTH gave out to so many will continue to SPREAD throughout the 💕 of many. The memories of your going away barbeque and other gatherings at the pool will never be forgotten 💜 Your visits back and forth and well I can go on and on. I will definitely keep in touch as you know I do and vice versa. Since my husband Ron's passing nearing 3 years, I live now 15 minutes from the boys home and will make a donation in person in Honor of Bud. With Much LOVE & 🙏 PRAYER to The Grover Family, May HIS PEACE BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN ON THE OTHER SIDE OF HEAVEN 💜💜💜 IN GOD'S PRESENCE!!! Phyllis Vance

Phyllis Vance - March 29, 2024 at 09:48 AM

PA

I worked with Gaylord at Boys Republic from 1976 to 1981. I was a kid at Boys Republic L.A. from 1968 to 1969. Minor offenses at 6 years old were followed by consciously choosing to pursue a criminal lifestyle at 12 years old, beginning with getting drunk, fighting and attempting to form a gang with some friends, first arrest and booking at 13, juvenile hall and placement on probation at 15 with a repertoire including pot, pills, burglaries and becoming a runaway living on the streets with help from my friends. At 16 the court put me in a residential program which I was kicked out of four months later after attempting to organize the kids into a drug dealing operation and burglary rings with residential and commercial branches. For reasons too complex to cover here I decided to get out of the life I both wanted and had been working for but had no idea how to do it. By good fortune I was placed at Boys Republic in L.A. which was being run by the two most effective men I've seen in the field. They enabled me to completely change my life trajectory. When I left my one goal in life was to be able to come back as a staff and give back what those two men had given to me. At 21 years old in 1972 I went back to L.A. Boys Republic as a counselor while continuing my education, completing my B.A. in December, 1975. In 1976 I transferred to Boys Republic's main campus in Chino as an Assistant Supervisor in one of the six cottages. Gaylord was there in another cottage. Between then and August, 1981, we worked in several positions, about one year of which included Gaylord and I together in one cottage with Gaylord as the Supervisor and me as his Assistant Supervisor. While we worked together I got to see first hand, up close and personal, Gaylord working with the kids that came to us. Like Ronald Reagan, who he greatly admired, he was a Great Communicator, like Knute Rockne he was a great motivator, he was able to get kids to want to change, to believe both in themselves and their ability to change their lives and to believe in him and his ability to help them do it. During this time I told him two things: 1.) That if at some point my own son, who was only four months old when I left Boys Republic, had started going down the path I had and I couldn't deter him from it, I would want to bring him to whatever program Gaylord was running and place him with him. 2.) That Gaylord was the only staff I had seen who was on the same level as the two who had helped me. Since that time I have worked in several careers including programs for "at-risk youth" from a 69 bed program for kids addicted to drugs (heroin, meth and cocaine, in that order, primary drugs of choice), to two six bed group homes with mostly abused and neglected teens who were also involved with gangs and criminal behavior. Following that I worked with a mental health agency as a Case Manager with a caseload of severely and persistently mental ill adults and concluding with a brief period as a case worker for a Child Protective Services agency. That was over another 20 years with youth. In all those years and working with all the staff, from line workers to social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists, with positions ranging from Night Staff

to Counselor, to Supervisor, to Case Manager to Program Administrator, what I told Gaylord in the late 1970's remains true. Gaylord and the two men who worked with me at Boys Republic's L.A. Residence, are the only three who I would have entrusted my own children to, and the only three who I believe had the ability and the desire to help kids to do so to the degree I know two of them did and I saw Gaylord do. As much as I regret it, I have to say that includes me. Rosemarie, Tammy and Nicholas, you have my deepest condolences. I am consoled that Gaylord's life in Christ that had only begun when I knew him remained. I hope you will find comfort in knowing you will be together again in the same peace he now has.

Paul Arnold - April 01, 2024 at 10:37 PM

PA

Much of what I've read here, both from Gaylord's family and from the Tributes written by friends and those he has touched, loudly rings true with what I saw when I worked with him in the late 70's. Rosemarie, Tammy and Nicholas, his love for you emanated from the depths of his being in everything he said and in everything I ever saw him do. That love extended to your parents, Rosemarie. Along with that love his pride in you just beamed.....always. He took great pride in being a United States Marine too. Seeing the photo of him here I feel like I can hear him adamantly declaring, "Semper Fi." A few years ago I was able to see the Marine Corps Memorial in Washington, D.C. I thought of Gaylord then. As my brother who was with me spoke about the Corps and the meaning of the Memorial to him, I was thinking of Gaylord as well as my brother. He lived every day I saw him with the same demands the Corps made for giving your absolute best and being your absolute best on both those he worked with, including staff as well as kids, and on himself. I never saw him resort to intimidation that was clothing malice. Rather he demonstrated in his demands on himself the same things he was demanding on others and it always came associated with his clear belief that you were yourself both able and worthy of doing and being what he was demanding. In other words, he believed you into being what he was challenging you to be. Precious few that I've ever known have been able to do that on their best day, but Gaylord lived it every day. As I noted in my first remarks, I didn't just see him do this on occasion, on some of the days I worked with him. I saw him do it every single day that I worked with him. As a result, in addition to being one of only three I've known who were as effective as those three were, he was also the best boss I ever had in several very different fields and hands down the one I enjoyed every day with. None of what I've said means in any way that he wasn't also someone who thoroughly loved having a good time, of laughing heartily. What several other tribute posters have said was present back in the 70's. He certainly loved his country music, the Duke and Ronald Reagan, possibly in that order. He loved being challenged and actively sought them. Once decided he gave it his best, usually achieving his goal and then taking real pride in it. I can assure you, no one but Gaylord could have gotten me out of bed to go play racquetball before going into work! I watched the 1minute, 57 second video of Life Bridge Christian Church and felt I could almost feel Gaylord enthusiastically and joyfully joining in. As proclaimed on one of the sweatshirts he was wearing in the recent photo addition, quoting Joshua, I feel like I can hear him now proclaiming, "Be Strong. Be Courageous." He lived that in this world and I'm sure he's doing the same in the new realm he has gone to. No doubt, he's telling all of us the same now.

Paul Arnold - April 02, 2024 at 09:15 PM