



Lonnie Bates Sr.

March 18, 1932 - November 16, 2015

Lonnie Bates Sr., 83, died Monday morning November 16, 2015 in Hot Springs with his family by his side. He was a loving brother, husband, father, and grandfather. He was involved with the Hot Springs community for 50 years. Lonnie served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He was preceded in death by his wife, Wanda Bates, parents, James and Ruth Bates, and his younger brothers, Gordon Bates, Dewane Bates and Carol Bates.

Lonnie is survived by his brother, Leon Bates Sr., his sons, Jim Jones, Lee Jones, Lonnie Bates Jr, Kelly Bates, and Lloyd Bates, and daughter Lynda Bates Hall; 11 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers include Leon Bates, Jr., Kevin Bates, Don Barber, Tom Sherman, Dale Bates, and Ross Stewart. Honorary pallbearers include Joel Sherman, Richmond Bates and Dennis Bates.

Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 PM Friday, November 20th at The Assembly - 307 Carpenter Dam Road, Suite H2 - Hot Springs, Arkansas. The celebration of life will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, November 21st at The Assembly.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the American Kidney Association

or the Leukemia Foundation.

Tribute Wall

BN

“ To the 3 sons and daughter of Lonnie, I hope you all know how highly I have always regarded your father. He was a very kind and fair man. He was smart enough to know when things weren't right even when he wasn't sure why they weren't right. That is the hallmark of a fair man.

He almost always knew the answers to questions he asked me. He may not have understood the methodology that accompanied the answer but the result-he knew. That is the hallmark of a thoughtful man.

He was a proud man, too. When I represented him in Court in 1987 I asked your mother, as a witness, to describe for the jury how Lonnie' s injuries had compromised her enjoyment of life. How his injuries had effected her. She said without hesitation, "I haven't been effected at all". He was too proud to let her be effected.

You all well know these things, but since I will be out of town this weekend I wanted to make sure that you had this message before the service. What a great guy your dad was.

Most sincerely, Burt Newell

Burt Newell - November 18, 2015 at 03:05 PM

RJ

“ Praying for your family in your time of need

Ruby Jenkins - November 18, 2015 at 02:11 PM

CL

“ My deepest condolences doing this time. Mr. Bates had a heart of Gold. From Connie and Johnny Lacy Family.



Connie Lacy - November 18, 2015 at 01:45 PM

DG

We pastored Central Assembly of God from 1981-87 in Hot Springs. During that time, Wanda Bates attended services, even teaching a class. She was such an inspiration to everyone. You haven't heard anyone pray until you heard her pray. One sentence she always said, "Devil, you are a mean ole devil!!!" She would emphasize it too!!! She would invite us over for a delicious meal in order to visit with Lonnie, which became close to us.

He had a business situation to come up and he wanted us to go out of town with them. We felt honored for him to think of us that much.

We invited him to church, sometimes he came. Later when we moved back to town, we visited again with them. We always felt a welcome in their home. Then we were saddened to lose Wanda.

Then we visited with Lonnie in and out of the hospital. Now he and Wanda are together once again. Our prayers are with the families during this time and many days ahead. God Bless!!!

Rev. Paul and Darlene Graves

Pastors, Shorewood Hills Assembly of God, Jones Mill

Darlene Graves - November 19, 2015 at 09:09 PM