



## Richard "Bubba" Payton

July 26, 1945 - July 4, 2018

Richard "Bubba" Payton, of Hot Springs, passed away on July 4th, 2018.

Bubba was born to Joe and Susie Payton on July 26, 1945. He was named National Boy's Club "Boy of the Year" in 1959. He graduated from Hot Springs High in 1963 and went on to get his masters degree from Arkansas Tech in Russellville. He also lettered in basketball, track, and bowling during his tenure at ATU. Bubba coached basketball, football, track, and golf at Osceola, Manila, and Lakeside before settling at Lake Hamilton in 1978. In 1985, Bubba became the school's first Director of Athletics, the title he held until his retirement in 2007. Like his childhood, over the course of his career, Coach Payton achieved many honors, including National Athletic Director of the Year, Arkansas Athletic Director of the Year, and he was inducted into the AHSAAA Hall of Fame in 2009.

Bubba is preceded in death by his mother, Susie, his father, Joe, and his brother, Ronnie. He is survived by his wife, Glenna Payton, his son, Brandon Payton (Kelsey Payton), daughters Tracey Halligan (Pat Halligan) and Lisa Whited, and grandchildren Shea Halligan, Meagan Weddle, Skyler Hebert, Stormie Smith and Jazmine Payton.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, July 8th, at 4 pm at Wolf Arena on the campus of Lake Hamilton High school. Located at 280 Wolf Street,

Pearcy, AR 71964.

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ I am his grand daughter I remember that he would always come to the most important events and give me a great big hug and say oh How I missed you. I would do any thing to get that hug back.



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**Jazmine** - March 05, 2020 at 09:48 AM

KN

“ In honor of a great friend:  
Coach Payton, one of the greatest men I have ever known, an outstanding man of high character. He took me under his guidance as an athlete, as a student and as a coach. He was always there for me. My career was highly successful because Coach Payton took the time and cared about helping people.  
I will be forever grateful my life crossed the path of Coach Payton.  
See you soon good friend in the Kingdom.  
2 Peter 1:10  
Keith Newsom

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**Keith Newsom** - July 08, 2018 at 05:58 PM

JM

“ Bubba was a beloved history teacher and friend to me. His kindness, his easy-going nature, and his smile will be remembered by us all. In my mind, Bubba will always be young and handsome, that funny and gentle man who I was fortunate to know.

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**Julie Mullings** - July 08, 2018 at 05:54 PM

JJ

“ *Jill Troupe Jones lit a candle in memory of Richard "Bubba" Payton*



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**Jill Troupe Jones** - July 08, 2018 at 05:03 PM

MJ

“ *What a great neighbour and friend...walked our dogs Poncho and Bella together.. Always super nice to me and my family. Glenna if you ever need anything just open your front door and wave.*

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**Malon and Joyce** - July 08, 2018 at 10:01 AM

IS

“ *The Payton's were our neighbors when we were children, our parents and family's went to church and school together and have know each other for a lifetime. Spoke with Richard a few years back and he was warm and a delight to speak with. A life well lived. Sorry for the loss. What a wonderful gentleman. May Peace and love and precious memories be with the family and friends always. Gary and Ina Reynolds Sanders*

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**Ina Reynolds Sanders** - July 08, 2018 at 09:13 AM

JH

“ *I really enjoyed working with Bubba a lot of good times. He was a good guy and a man with a good heart for people!!!*

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**Julia Hartsfield** - July 07, 2018 at 04:32 PM

BS

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Bubba was a great man, a good friend, and a wonderful mentor and role model. He will be missed.  
Bruce & Cindy Smith



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**Bruce & Cindy Smith** - July 07, 2018 at 04:31 PM

DO

“ I have known Bubba since I was a young girl. I always thought he was so handsome. I knew the entire from Central Lanes. He will be missed greatly. Love and prayers.

*Diane Orrell*

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**Diane Orrell** - July 07, 2018 at 04:21 PM

JH

“ Bubba was an admired AD of my late husband Don Hubbard AD at Magnolia from 1970-2000. Don and Bubba lived by the same athletic standards and wanted the best for their students and athletes. My prayers are with you and your family. I know he touched so many lives in a positive way.

*Jennifer W. Hubbard*  
*Magnolia Arkansas*

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**Jennifer W. Hubbard** - July 07, 2018 at 01:17 PM

BW

“ Our prayers are with your family at this sad time. You will be missed by all your bowling friends. We will miss our visits and your smile. I will remember the 300 you put on me, but I forgave you.  
Bob and Ann Winfree and Al Quesnel

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**BOB & ANN WINFREE** - July 07, 2018 at 11:24 AM

KC

“ *Bubba was truly one of the good guys.  
Glenna and family, our thoughts and prayers  
are with you all at this time.*  
Love,  
*Kathy & Harry Childs*



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**Kathy Childs** - July 07, 2018 at 10:42 AM

BD

“ *Bubba was a high school friend of my husband Steve and we would  
often see him in later years riding his bicycle on Marion Anderson  
Road. He was such a gentle soul and very much loved by many. My  
prayers are with his family now.*

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**Betty Davidson** - July 07, 2018 at 09:00 AM

SL

“ *R I P God bless you and your family*

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**stan lafever** - July 07, 2018 at 08:57 AM

SB

“ *Bubba Payton was a wonderful man and a beloved member of the  
bowling community of Hot Springs and especially a loved friend of  
the Botter family. I can remember him siding with my brothers Brian  
and Joey when they were bowling against me.*  
*I never saw him without a smile on his face or a kind word to say to  
anyone he came into contact with. The world is definitely a brighter  
place because of him and all of the young lives that he touched with  
his wisdom, patience, and humor.*  
*Rest in peace Bubba we will miss you!*  
Love,  
*Steve, Brian, and Joey Botter*

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**Steve Botter** - July 06, 2018 at 04:17 PM

SB

“ Glenna, you and your family are in many many prayers and thoughts. Bubba and Ronnie were two of the really 'good guys' who came out of Hot Springs. You two were lucky to have each other for as long as you did. Bubba was a wonderful influence on so many for so long. Bless you.

Sincerely  
Steve Brown

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**Stephen Brown** - July 06, 2018 at 04:09 PM

NK

“ Nancy J Koonce sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard "Bubba" Payton



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**Nancy J Koonce** - July 06, 2018 at 03:35 PM

VP

“ Bubba was such a nice guy!! He did so much for the athletic program at LH ! He was so committed to the students, the program, and community. Remembering his own sports abilities from the Boys Club to the Trojan Basketball team. He was the gentleman of our HSHS class of '63! You will be missed!

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**vicki bischof philipp** - July 06, 2018 at 03:30 PM

PM

“ Coach Payton was always friendly and supportive of all sports and all players. Outstanding man and role model. RIP Coach. - Preston Molsbee, Class of 1993

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**Preston Molsbee** - July 06, 2018 at 12:56 PM

TS

“ I, as many others, have known Bubba, Ronnie and there mom since grade school age. We have lost one of the true good guys.

*Tom Smitherman*

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**Tom Smitherman** - July 06, 2018 at 12:42 PM

JB

“ Bubba was one of our favorite HS people ever. He was a wonderful athlete and gentleman. We was my cabin counselor at Camp Yorktown in '63 and worked on the moving van that got my family to Hot Springs in '64. Truly a good man. His smile and friendliness will be missed. Joe and Barb Bonnette

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**Joe Bonnette** - July 06, 2018 at 11:58 AM