

Do Not Stand At My Grave And Weep

Do not stand at my grave and weep

I am not there; I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow,

I am the diamond glints on snow,

I am the sun on ripened grain,

I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush

I am the swift uplifting rush

Of quiet birds in circled flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry,

I am not there; I did not die.

-- *Mary Elizabeth Frye*



In Loving Memory



of
Hathard Gatlin

Sunrise: January 12, 1941 - Sunset: April 12, 2020

Services

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Visitation 11:00AM-1:00PM

Dixie Funeral Home

750 Bills St

Bolivar, TN 38008

Pastor Lawrence Pirtle

Order of Service

Processional

Words of Welcome - Pastor Pirtle

Prayers - Pastor Pirtle

Scripture - John 16: 22-24

Obituary Reading

Words of Comfort- Pastor Pirtle

Hillfield M.B. Church

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Pallbearers

Gerard Gatlin Jr.	Kenneth Gatlin
Milton Davis Jr.	Michion Gatlin
Swanson Davis	Lawrence Bonds

Honorary Pallbearers

Milton Davis Sr.	Chris Moore
LaVerl Moore	Eric Moore
Hank Miller	Andre Jamar White

Internment

Hillfield MB Church
570 Naylor Road
Toone, TN 38381

Acknowledgements

The family of the late Hathard Gatlin wish to express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to the many loving friends and family members who have cried with us, prayed for us and shared fond memories with us during this sad time. We will cherish forever your friendship, fellowship, love and support as we lay to rest a beloved father and friend to so many people. We would like to give a special thank you to the wonderful professionals at Windlands East Retirement Community.

Obituary

In life and in death, Hathard Gatlin was the life of the party in every room he ever entered. Known for his great sense of humor and ability to tell a story, everyone loved to crowd around him to hear him spin a tale--embellishments and all.

Hathard was born on January 12, 1941 to Ulysses "Shack" Gatlin and Fannie (Beard) Gatlin, in Toone, TN where he was the sixth of nine children and the youngest of four sons. Hathard gave his life to Christ at age 12 and soon joined Hillfield Baptist Church along with his family. Hathard graduated from Allen White High School in 1959. After graduating high school, Hathard moved first to Nashville and later, to Chicago.

While working as a busboy in a downtown restaurant, he let a friend convince him to go on a double date with him and his girlfriend. On that blind date, Hathard met Bertha Jenkins, a tall, willowy young woman from the South Side of Chicago. Hathard was a good dancer as a young man and would take his future wife to "waistline parties" where the cover charge was based on the number of inches around the woman's waist. "Your mom cost me 22 cents back then!"

Barely two years after meeting, the two would marry and soon their first child, Patrick, was born. The young family of three soon moved to Saginaw, Michigan where Hathard worked for General Motors, where he worked for 27 years before he retired. The pair had two more children: a son, Derrell, and a daughter, Latarsha.

The only thing Hathard loved more than cracking jokes ("I only make fun of people I like"), telling stories and taking long drives was the great outdoors. His love of the country was deeply rooted in him until his last days. His favorite thing to do was go hunting. It was not uncommon for there to be pheasant, squirrel, rabbit or deer on the table at the Gatlin household. The Gatlin children joke that they rarely invited friends over for dinner because of this.

Hathard will be remembered as a consummate storyteller with a personality and charm that was larger than life. His cherished memory will burn brighter than the stars and hotter than the sun.

He is survived by his three adult children: Patrick, Antioch TN; Derrell (Gwen), Murfreesboro TN, and Latarsha, Nottingham MD and his sisters: Irene Gatlin, Madison TN; Carley (Hank) Miller, Hermitage TN and Shirley (Milton) Davis, Jackson TN. He has five grandchildren: Aaron McBride, Taylor Gatlin, Ryan Gatlin, Justin Johnson and Marcisa Bender:, and one great grandson, Issac. He was beloved by his numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins and friends.

