



William D. "Billy" Witherspoon

August 17, 1935 - July 13, 2021

William David "Billy" Witherspoon went to live eternally with Jesus in Heaven on July 13th, 2021, at Conway Medical Center in Conway, South Carolina. Billy was born to Hubert Henry and Pearl Copeland Witherspoon on August 17th, 1935, in Timmonsville, South Carolina, on a small hog and tobacco farm. He was preceded in death by his sister, Boyd Witherspoon Weaver (Lansing). Billy is survived by his wife of 63 years, Linda Johnson Witherspoon, two sons, William David Witherspoon, Jr. (Louise), and Hubert Craig Witherspoon (Fran), and one daughter, Linda Anne Adams (Dent). He also leaves eight grandchildren, Virginia Witherspoon Merritt (Justin), Spencer Craig Witherspoon (Jordan), Gillen Witherspoon Schecter (Aaron), Sarah Elizabeth Witherspoon, Rebecca Witherspoon Stubbs (Brandon), William David Witherspoon, III (Julia), Anne Miller Harper (Walt), and Mary Webb Parker (Ken), as well as six great-grandchildren.

A rural, farming boy, Billy was proud to receive an education from Clemson University, then, Clemson Agricultural College. Upon graduation from Clemson in 1956, he began serving the citizens of South Carolina for the next 50 years. His first service began as a Clemson Extension agent and continued in different capacities for 34 years. He was elected and honored to become the President of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents during his tenure. Billy also served in the US Army Reserve. After retiring from Clemson Extension, Billy became a public servant in a new manner. Elected

to the South Carolina House of Representatives (District 105), he represented the citizens of Horry County for 16 years, serving as the Chairman of the Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee for his last several terms. Because of his service, Billy was given the Order of the Palmetto, was inducted into the Frank Lever County Extension Agent Hall of Fame at Clemson University, named to Clemson University's commemorative Scroll of Honor and Extension's Distinguished Service Award, was named Clemson University's Alumni of the Year, and has received many other distinguished honors throughout his lifetime.

Billy's 50 years of public service to the state of South Carolina was outmatched only by his loyalty and devotion to church and family. He was a faithful member of Conway First Baptist Church for many years, where he served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher, and pastor search committee member. Billy's family was always a priority. His love and compassion for his family could not be measured. His guidance, love and generosity will be felt for generations to come by those who have known him as husband, Dad, Grandpa Billy, Gramps, Papa, Papa Billy, G-Pa, Uncle Bill, mentor, colleague, or friend.

A memorial service will be held at Conway First Baptist Church on Friday, July 16th at 11 AM with Rev. Rocky Taylor officiating, followed by visitation. Goldfinch Funeral Home will oversee arrangements. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Conway First Baptist Church, Help 4 Kids of Myrtle Beach (help4kidssc.org/donate/), or CAP: Churches Assisting People (capconway.org/take-action).

Sign an online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery

1000 Hwy 544
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 347-4909
<https://www.hillcrestcemetery.com/>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Conway
603 Elm Street
Conway, SC 29526
<http://www.fbconway.org>

Tribute Wall

ME

“ Linda, you and your family are in my prayers. Billy was a wonderful Christian, public servant and human being. He did so much for so many. I remember calling him one day when he was debating the state budget bill on the House floor. He had retired from Clemson Extension Service. My message was that I needed his advice on ridding our yard of mole crickets. He returned my call that evening and gave me great advice. "The new Clemson agent is very good," he said. "I'm sure he is," I said. "But I've dealt with the old agent 20 years and he's the best." We both laughed. I'm certain he received many calls just like that. May God bless you as he strengthens you during this loss.

Mary Eaddy - July 31, 2021 at 12:26 PM

JH

“ My deepest sympathies go out to you and your family. My most sincere condolences.

Jackie and Nyoka H. Hucks - July 16, 2021 at 03:38 PM

JH

“ Jackie And Nyoka H. Hucks lit a candle in memory of William D. "Billy" Witherspoon



Jackie and Nyoka H. Hucks - July 16, 2021 at 03:36 PM

KH

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God bless you all. Katie B Vincent Hinson and Bobby*



Katie V. Hinson - July 16, 2021 at 10:57 AM

BG

“ *Thoughts and prayers to the Witherspoon family. Billy D. Gore, Longs*

Billy Gore - July 16, 2021 at 09:14 AM

MC

“ *David, so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. Diane and I will be praying for the Witherspoon Family. Mario and Diane Carlone*

mario carlone - July 15, 2021 at 07:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William D. "Billy" Witherspoon.*



July 15, 2021 at 02:55 PM

BH

“ *Prayers for Grampa Billy and the Witherspoon family from Ben & Laurie Hable and family*

Ben Hable - July 15, 2021 at 02:36 PM

KN

“ Dear Craig and Family,
I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your Dad. I will be praying for
comfort in the difficult days ahead.

Love,
Kim Johnson Dusenbury

Kim Johnson Dusenbury Sunset Beach, NC - July 15, 2021 at 01:47 PM

BR

“ Thoughts and prayers to the Witherspoon family. I will light a candle
in his honor tonight and pray for the family.

Brian - July 15, 2021 at 01:33 PM

LS

“ Mr. Witherspoon was such a kind and compassionate man who
loved his God and family. My sincere condolences to his family and
friends who loved him so much.

Lyn Snyder - July 15, 2021 at 12:44 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of William D. "Billy" Witherspoon.



July 15, 2021 at 12:34 PM

TE

“ My sincere condolences to the Witherspoon family. Billy Witherspoon was one of the nicest persons I have ever met. He knew his work and business and always was glad to share anything that was progressing in his field of work. May the family be comforted by his service he did for all the community, church and family. God Bless.

Tessa G. Edmondson - July 15, 2021 at 12:28 PM

KA

“ Our sincere condolences for your loss. May 'the God of all comfort' be with the Witherspoon family at this time. Isaiah 41:13

Kathryn - July 15, 2021 at 12:28 PM

JW

“ Billy was such a sweet family man. I know you all are so proud of who he was and what he accomplished in his work life and his personal life. What an amazing family! You all were certainly blessed. We are praying for God to give you peace and comfort as you grieve this loss.

Jim & Mitzi Wiggins - July 15, 2021 at 12:15 PM

DR

“ Thoughts and prayers to all. Billy and family were one of my Dads closest friends-Hubert Watson and we appreciate all that Billy did for our community and state. You have many beautiful memories of Billy because he cared so much for everyone and everything in his life. May God bless each of you. Dianne W. Ray

Dianne Ray - July 15, 2021 at 11:12 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William D. "Billy" Witherspoon.*



July 15, 2021 at 11:08 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Billy's passing. I always enjoyed working with him and so appreciated his help in getting on golf courses conduct mole cricket and fire ant management demonstrations. Billy always stood on the edge of the fairways while my technician and I were checking plots. He would warn us when golfers were teeing off and then when they got near he would tell them all about the work we were doing. He never met a stranger and was very enjoyable to work with. I will always remember him.*

*Clyde S. Gorsuch
Extension Entomologist, Retired*

Clyde S. Gorsuch - July 15, 2021 at 09:59 AM



“ *Dear Linda and family, we were so sorry to hear of the loss of Bill. He was a wonderful person! Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Eddie Frank and Traci Salley*

Traci Salley - July 15, 2021 at 09:13 AM

SC

“ Susan Baiden Chestnut lit a candle in memory of William D. "Billy" Witherspoon



Susan Baiden Chestnut - July 15, 2021 at 07:25 AM

DE

“ Linda and family. Billy's service to Horry county and the citizens of SC follows him as a fitting legacy. As a colleague, he was always held in highest esteem. We share in your grief. Prayers to you all from the Extension family. Dan Ezell

Danny Ezell - July 15, 2021 at 12:39 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William D. "Billy" Witherspoon.

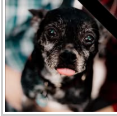


July 14, 2021 at 09:34 PM

BD

“ Linda,
We are so sorry to hear about Billy. You both have been very special friends over many, many years. Billy served the National County Agents Association extremely well over several years. He was always so pleasant to be around. He love you and your children so much. We will be keeping you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. We love you and are sending many hugs from our family to yours.

Billy & Bobby Ann Dictson - July 14, 2021 at 09:07 PM



*Oh nooooo!! I'm so sorry to read this! Linda, our hearts go out to you!!
The world and this country lost a great man.*

Deborah Dictson - July 14, 2021 at 09:28 PM

ER

Linda and Family, Blondell and I were saddened to read about Billy. Please know that our thought and prayers are with you. We know that this loss leaves a void in your hearts. Our prayer is for God to fill this void with His unfailing love. Billy leaves a legacy that will be long remembered in the State of South Carolina, for which we're all very proud. Love, Blondell & Rabon Rodgers

E. Rabon Rodgers - July 15, 2021 at 08:38 PM

DP

“ *Linda and All of Billy's Family - The fond memories of Billy all revolve around the National Association of County Agricultural Agents and teh many fun times we shared at board meetings, annual meetings and fun dinners and outings. The meeting in Charlotte will always be very special to us. Our love, thoughts and prayers are with all of you. May God Bless you. Dave and Cathy Phillips, Montana*

Dave Phillips - July 14, 2021 at 05:31 PM