



Heath Allen Spence

November 11, 1981 - December 26, 2015

Heath Allen Spence of Mt. Ida, Arkansas passed from this life, Saturday, December 26, 2015 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Heath was born November 11, 1981 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Heath was 34 years, 1 month and 15 days old.

Heath leaves behind to cherish his memory, his mother and stepfather, Rita and Robert "Spud" Austin of Mt. Ida, Arkansas, one brother Erick Spence and wife April of Greenwood and one sister, Cristy Peaslee of Fort Smith, Arkansas. Heath also leaves behind his uncle, Alfred Abshere of Lavaca, Ar. Heath will forever remain in the hearts of two grandmothers, Marianne Abshere of Greenwood, Arkansas and Sue Spence of Van Buren, Arkansas as well as two precious nieces, Audrey Spence and Anna Spence.

Heath was preceded in death by two grandfathers: Roy Lee Abshere and Lloyd Spence.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements and cremation are being entrusted to the Heritage Memorial Funeral Home in Waldron, Arkansas.

Heath ask that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to 3 Girls Animal Rescue, P.O. Box 1001, Shady Point, OK 74956 or you may make contributions online to their pay pal link: <http://form.jotformpro.com/form/acct.#42637003824955>. Heath fostered "Tilley" who brought him so much joy and

love.

Tribute Wall



“ *Heritage Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Heath Allen Spence*



Heritage Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory - January 04, 2016 at 10:28 AM

KA

Precious ❤️ I love you Heath!

kristin armstrong - January 04, 2016 at 08:51 PM

JH

Love this!!

Jennifer Humphrey - January 05, 2016 at 08:17 AM

EP

Beautiful tribute. Fine looking Fellow. Nice smile. I know he loved his Momma.

Eddie Pratt - January 05, 2016 at 08:52 AM

JD

*Wonderful tribute!!!!
The Dildys from Little Fir Landing*

James & Eddie Lynn Dildy - January 05, 2016 at 09:19 AM

KS

Oh how I remember this beautiful, sweet boy. He was such a handsome, considerate and loving young man. We will certainly miss his beautiful smile.

Karen Stem - January 05, 2016 at 12:30 PM

VP

Awesome tribute. Very handsome young man.

Vernene Parker - January 05, 2016 at 05:21 PM

 Rita Austin

Thank you everyone. Your words mean so much to me.

Rita Austin - January 06, 2016 at 08:04 AM

JA

He was a great friend! I miss him! RIP Heath!

Jennifer Alverson - January 27, 2016 at 01:31 AM

 Greg Bowles

“ *thinking of you this Holiday season*



Greg Bowles - December 30, 2016 at 08:31 PM

LW

“ *Landy & Bennie Westphal lit a candle in memory of Heath Allen Spence*



Landy & Bennie Westphal - January 08, 2016 at 09:51 PM

LA

The memorial video was a beautiful remembrance of all of the things and people that he loved. We have great memories of our time spent with Heath.

Landy - January 08, 2016 at 09:56 PM



Thank you so much. Heath loved you both dearly.

Rita Austin - January 08, 2016 at 10:04 PM



“ *My heart goes out to you Rita and your family! All I can say is I am there with you, I understand your loss. I look back and remember the many football games with Heath and Brian. The many awesome plays Heath made... The many happy times! Hold on to those. Always think about the happy times and the wonderful person Heath was. He touched many lives. Love you! Cindy Cagle and family*

Cindy Cagle - January 07, 2016 at 05:02 PM



Oh Cindy, thank you for the kind words. Yes, Brian and Heath gave us wonderful memories. They are together again. You have been through so much. My heart is with you. Love you

Rita Austin - January 08, 2016 at 08:42 AM



“ *Phyllis Edwards lit a candle in memory of Heath Allen Spence*



Phyllis Edwards - January 05, 2016 at 08:26 AM



Thank you my dear friend. I love you

Rita Austin - January 05, 2016 at 07:45 PM

KA

“ *Kristin Armstrong lit a candle in memory of Heath Allen Spence*



kristin armstrong - January 04, 2016 at 08:52 PM



Thank you sweet friend. Love you

Rita Austin - January 05, 2016 at 07:49 AM

SH

“ *It was an honor and privilege to know and care for Heath. Rita and Robert, you guys are in my prayers. -Dr. Harrington*

sarah harrington - January 02, 2016 at 11:58 AM



Oh thank you sweet lady. Heath thought so much of you. You are an amazing woman. You go way beyond and Heath loved you.

Rita Austin - January 02, 2016 at 12:30 PM



“ *I remember the great talks we used to have on Monday mornings taking him to work.. lots of great memories when we all lived together in Fort Smith... he was a wonderful young man with a huge heart. Im so sorry Rita praying for you.*

Shannon Crelia - December 31, 2015 at 07:01 AM

SS

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Heath. So many great memories come to mind. We had so much fun running around as kids. Heath's laugh and wonderful smile will never be forgotten. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.

Stephanie Swilling Scott - December 30, 2015 at 05:06 PM

 Rita Austin

Thank you Stephanie, Heath loved you dearly.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 08:13 PM

AS

“ I remember when my uncle heath gave me my little stuffed animal for my birthday after I won my big game. I still have it. I will always cherish it.

Anna Spence - December 30, 2015 at 11:43 AM

 Rita Austin

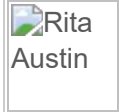
Oh Anna, Uncle Heath loves you and Audrey more than you will ever know. You girls were everything to him. Love you so much. He is smiling seeing that you still have that stuffed animal.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 04:09 PM

JB

“ I only got to know Heath this year at the lake, but he gave me lasting memories I will carry with me. Heath was always so kind and polite and wanting to do for me. I will miss him so and see him in my mind swimming and riding the golf cart through the park. Praying for the family.

Janice Burris - December 30, 2015 at 08:14 AM



Thank you Janice. I have a crystal he found with you. I treasure it. He thought the world of you and loved the strawberry ice cream you have him. Thanking you for being his friend. We love you.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 08:52 AM



I remember Heath's smile at Christmas Dinners at my Mom's house. He always loved her German cooking. She would make extra "kumderdles" just for him. I also remember he let me borrow his blue motorcycle jacket. I wore it all the time. You will always have a special place in my heart.

Pat Nye - December 30, 2015 at 02:59 PM



Thank you Pat. He so loved your mom and you as well. He certainly loved that German food!

Rita Austin - January 03, 2016 at 07:19 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Heath Allen Spence.

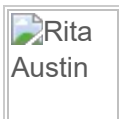


December 30, 2015 at 04:05 AM



“ So sorry to hear this I've known Heath since we were kids and he was a great person

Jennifer Whorton - December 30, 2015 at 12:05 AM



Thank you so much.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 08:53 AM

CM

“ Rita you and your family are in our prayers. I can still see Heath running around the ballfield when the kids were younger love Cathy moore(Seaton)

cathy moore - December 29, 2015 at 10:45 PM



Yes Cathy, those were the times he was happy. Thank you for getting in touch. I've always cherished you as a friend. Much love your way.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 08:54 AM

LE

“ Although we truly did not get enough time together, I will always cherish the time we did. I feel so privileged to be the one he talked to about everything he experienced in his life. He had so many great stories, and some not so good, but he came to peace with those bad decisions and gave them to God for forgiveness. I love him so very much, and will miss him dearly. Rita, I will always be here for you. You were his hero and back bone. He loved and respected you more than you'll ever know.

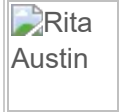


Leslie - December 29, 2015 at 08:47 PM



Thank you sweet girl. Heath loved you so much. He said he wished he had met you so much earlier. He believed he could have had a great life. His greatest gift he ever have me was telling me he forgave himself. He left this works in peace, with that I have great comfort. You will always be in my life. I love you Leslie. Thank you for excepting Heath for what he was. I will always be grateful to you for that. You are an amazing woman.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:47 PM



Rita Austin

Sorry some of my words changed. He gave me gift and left the world in peace.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:50 PM



CM

Rita I am sorry for your loss. Heath was always so sweet when I saw him he would give me a hug no matter where he was. My prayers are with you and your family. Love Cathy moore(Seaton)

cathy moore - December 29, 2015 at 10:22 PM



GB

So sorry to hear about Heath, i loved hanging out with him. Heath loved the outdoors and was a joy to be around. He will be missed

Greg Bowles - December 30, 2015 at 05:13 AM



Rita Austin

Thank you. He loved living here at the lake with me. Although he was sick, he still floated in the lake by the house.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 08:56 AM



LR

“ So sorry to hear about this. He was such a fun and outgoing person. I will always remember him as such! RIP Heath!

Lacy Roffine - December 29, 2015 at 06:10 PM



Rita Austin

Thank you for the kind words.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:50 PM



DE

“ Rita, I know there are no words that I can say to help with the pain. Just want you to know I'm thinking of you during this difficult time.

Debbie - December 29, 2015 at 05:50 PM



Thank you so much. He can now finally have peace.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:51 PM



“ *RIP Heath.. So sorry Rita. There were so many memories of Heath. He was like a brother to me when him and my brother hung out. Praying for all of you!!*



Jamie Johnston-Campbell - December 29, 2015 at 05:47 PM



Thank you. I'm so happy for the happy memories he left.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:52 PM



“ *Rita, I am so sorry for your loss. My family will keep your family in our prayers. I know he will be heaven riding his horse. I have many memories during our shodeos. I will miss him very much.*

Cassandra (McCorkle)Bridgewater - December 29, 2015 at 05:37 PM



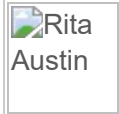
Oh thank you so much. Those memories are good for me too. The good days, I cherish them.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:55 PM



“ *Rita, Spud and family. Michael and I are deeply sorry for your loss. Continued prayers for the family.*

Sandra Wallace - December 29, 2015 at 05:24 PM



Thank you for your prayers. We appreciate them.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:56 PM



“ Erick & Jess, we send our thoughts and prayers to you in you time of loss. All of your church family are there for you. Your Friend, Rosemary & Art

Rosemary Sellers - December 29, 2015 at 02:23 PM



Thank you so much

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 04:55 PM



I love you heathy! I am glad there will be no more pain. fly high cuz! you will be missed! love you all Prayers to all your family hugs to you all .

Frances Miller - December 29, 2015 at 05:42 PM



Thank you Fran! He is finally free.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 09:57 PM



Thank you Rosemary for your kind words to Erick. I hope you're church family will also remember the ones who took care of Heath during his years of illness. Well before the cancer, and for the two years he was fighting and dying with cancer. A parent never gives up on their child with depression, addiction and cancer. I always tried my best to take care of him, mostly on my own. So those prayers are greatly appreciated.

Rita Austin - January 03, 2016 at 07:36 PM

DG

“ *Rita, so sorry for your loss. Donna and I will keep you in our prayers. Dale*

Dale Gentry - December 29, 2015 at 02:05 PM

RA

Thank you both so much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 04:57 PM



“ *Heath was a great guy with an awesome personality. We have many fun memories in our younger years. I miss you already.*

Abigail May - December 29, 2015 at 12:19 PM

RA

Thank you Abby, we both love you dearly.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 04:58 PM

KC

“ *Sorry to hear of your loss Rita and Erick. Our prayers are with you and your family's.*

Ken and Mary Crawley

Ken and Mary Crawley - December 29, 2015 at 12:15 PM

RA

Thank you so much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 04:59 PM

DE

“ *Heath will always be in our hearts. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.*

Devin - December 29, 2015 at 12:03 PM

RA

Thank you so much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:03 PM

KR

“ *MAY GOD GIVE YOU THE PEACE YOU NEED IN THIS TIME OF LOSS I KNOW JESS AND RITA WILL TRULY MISS THEIR BELOVED SON AND I KNOW DID ALL THEY COULD TO HELP HIM.*

K RICE

Karen Rice - December 29, 2015 at 11:06 AM

RA

Thank you, yes I did all that could be done. Never gave up on heath.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:01 PM

 Kellie
Allen-
Todd

“ *He always had a smile and loved to make people laugh. RIP Heath*

Kellie Allen- Todd - December 28, 2015 at 10:26 PM

 Rita
Austin

Thank you for your sweet words.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 08:58 AM

MR

“ *Heath always made me laugh with his sense of humor. He will be missed and I send my deepest condolences to the Spence family.*

Matthew Remaley - December 28, 2015 at 09:51 PM

RA

Thank you so much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:03 PM

JB

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. John David and Brandee Brown*

John David and Brandee Brown - December 28, 2015 at 08:52 PM

RA

Thank you so much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:04 PM

DD

“ *I'm so glad to have known Heath. My sweet Rita, I love you and have you in my heart and prayers. You and Spud are precious to me.*



Darla Dozier - December 28, 2015 at 07:46 PM

RA

Thank you sweet friend. We love you so much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:05 PM

AD

“ I have many great memories of you Heath. You had a very special place in my heart. You will be missed more than you will ever know.

Ashlea Duggar - December 28, 2015 at 07:44 PM

JB

“ I've got a lot of great memories with ya buddy. Talking at the fence as kids, playing peewee football, and plenty of nights out having fun. You were a great friend to everyone that had the pleasure of knowing you. I'm gonna miss you bubba..

Joshua Brownfield - December 28, 2015 at 06:34 PM



Thank you Josh. I wish thing could have been different when you both were young. We always thought the world of you and Brandi. Thank you for being a friend to Heath. I cherish that.

Rita Austin - December 30, 2015 at 09:00 AM

JA

“ So many memories with Heath! He was a wonderful person! RIP Heath! You are loved and will be missed greatly! Prayers for the family!

Jennifer Alverson - December 28, 2015 at 06:04 PM



Thank you for your kind words.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:12 PM

KP

“ I have many memories as kids to adults with you bro! Too young to go but God called you home... God bless you my friend and will miss you!!!

Kyle Priddy - December 28, 2015 at 05:37 PM


Jennifer
Clem

“ Prayers for your family. Very sorry for your loss, Heath was a great guy.



Jennifer Clem - December 28, 2015 at 05:19 PM

RA

Thank you very much.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:11 PM

JP

“ Gonna be missed Buddy enjoyed you coming by the shop and talking you always had me laughing esp the night you woke me up at 3 in the morning to pull you out of shadow lake love ya Man R.I.P

Jim Philpot - December 28, 2015 at 05:09 PM

RA

Thank you Jim. Heath though the world of you.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:07 PM

DS

“ Rita and Robert , much love and prayers to you all and family

Dianne Seager - December 28, 2015 at 05:09 PM


Rita
Austin

Thank you so much

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:17 PM

TC

“ *Rita and Spud , prayers for you and the family at this time.*



Teresa Culpepper - December 28, 2015 at 01:16 PM

NG

So sorry to hear this. Prayers for all the family and friends.

Nick Goff - December 28, 2015 at 05:10 PM

Jl

This absolutely breaks my heart. Heath had a very good soul. He was always considerate of others and went out of his way to put a smile on people's face. May God fill his family's hearts & minds with all the good memories he blessed us with.

Jill - December 28, 2015 at 08:27 PM

RA

Thank you all so much. Very kind words.

Rita Austin - December 29, 2015 at 05:09 PM