



## Johnie Ward

July 19, 1933 - May 20, 2012

Johnie Ray Ward of Waldron, Arkansas went to be with his Lord and Savior Sunday, May 20, 2012 in Fort Smith, Arkansas surrounded by his loving family. Johnie was born July 19, 1933 to William Carol Ward and Eliza Josephine (Hensley) Ward in Dooley, Arkansas. Johnie was 78 years, 10 months and 1 day old. He was a faithful member of the Waldron First Baptist Church, where he served as a Deacon for many years. Johnie was also a member of the Gideons, helping to reach many people by sharing God's word. Johnie served a tenure in the United States Army and then he served a two year service in the United States Navy in the Korean War era. Johnie's hobby after retirement was his love of the love of the outdoors. He enjoyed working in the yard, flower beds and mowing. He also loved to take the love of his life, his wife Marion and travel. When he wasn't traveling he loved to listen to his family play and sing music. His family and friends could always count on Johnie for an encouraging word and one of his ever famous SMILES! Johnie leaves behind to cherish his memory, his loving wife of 53 years, Marion of the home, three sons, Steve of Little Rock, Arkansas, and Mark and wife Karen of Waldron, Arkansas, Phillip and wife Cheryel of Ozark, Missouri, . Pappy will forever be missed by his six grandchildren Willie, Jeff and wife Amy, Dillon, Kelli Jo, Sophie and Zane. Pappy will also be missed by his five great grandchildren, Looper, Kaden, Reece, Mathew and Joseph. Johnie is also survived by two sisters, Juanita Maxwell and Kathy White both of Waldron, Arkansas, and two brothers, Marvin Ward of Waldron, Arkansas and Jo Bill

Ward of Mena, Arkansas. Johnie is preceded in death by his parents, William Carol Ward and Eliza Josephine (Hensley) Ward, and three brothers, Floyd, Jerald and George. Johnie's celebration of life service will be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at The Waldron First Baptist Church in Waldron, Arkansas with Rev. Rickey Hunt and Rev. Warren Gasaway officiating.

Interment will follow in the Duncan Cemetery in Waldron, Arkansas.

Arrangements are being entrusted to Heritage Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory in Waldron, Arkansas. Johnie's pallbearers will be Willie Ward, Jeff Ward, Travis May, Dillon Ward, Looper Ward and Trey Plummer. Honorary pallbearers will be Glen Dale Sparks, Waldron First Baptist Church Deacons, Johnie's Men's Sunday School Class, Jerry Parker, Junior Wagner and Robert May. Johnie's visitation will be 11:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at the Heritage Memorial Funeral Home in Waldron, Arkansas.

# Tribute Wall

SY

“ *I am sorry for our loss.*

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**Susan Jones Young** - August 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *We will allways remember you Johnie, as a friend & brother in Crist. Thank you & your son for sharring the word & music at Waldron P.C.G. P/S Be looking for when this life is over. Love You Ray & Clara*

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**Ray & Clara Smith** - June 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ *I had no idea Johnie had passed away until I heard it today. He was such a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.*

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**Nancy Lassiter Hobson** - June 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *My sincere condolences to the Ward family. I've known and loved the Wards since the fall of 1959. May you all be comforted in good memories and rest in God's care.*  
*with love, Donna*

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**Donna Baggs Martin** - June 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Just found out about Johnie Ray's passing. Will be praying for the family in the days ahead. Bro. Johnie Ray was such an inspiration to us. He was a man so full of love and a mighty love for God! I have no doubt that he is in a much better place. He always had a hug to share. He will be greatly missed. Heaven has truly gained a great angel!

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**Matt, Dyiana, Kerstein & Hunter Kane** - June 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Marion Marie... I'm just now reading that you and your family have lost Johnie Ray. Please know that our hearts and prayers go out to you. Johnie Ray was a good man (and a good friend to Mother and Daddy). I'm sure he will be greatly missed by allot of people in Waldron.. I'll be thinking about you. Love to you.

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**Becky Rackley Gardner** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Our thoughts & prayers go out to the family.

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**Jerry, Paula, & Anthony Ward** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ So very to have heard of Johnie's passing. He was one of the *KINDEST* people I knew. Praying for all of you at this difficult time!

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**Melissa Sawyer** - May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time.

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**Stephanie and Chris Brewster** - May 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Johnie Ray Ward  
c/o Heritage Memorial Funeral Home and Crematory funeral home.

May 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss, but know that Johnny is now  
with the Lord healed and totally happy. We are praying for your  
peace and strength right now. Our love to you.

Pat and Dale Eppler - May 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I have nothing but fond memories of Johnie. He gave me advice  
that I couldn't follow as a young man, but try to live my life by today.  
He was a blessing. I'm sure heaven is a brighter place today with  
his sweet spirit bringing laughter and joy to those around him.

Michael Dyche - May 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry to hear that Johnie passed away. May God bless and  
comfort you now and in the days ahead.

Jim and Lou Ann Brewer

Lou Ann Brewer - May 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry for your loss .He will be miss by all.Our thoughts and  
prayers are with you.

Robert&Linda Jett - May 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VT

“ To Marion Marie and all the family: So sorry for you loss. Johnie always made me feel like I was home when in Waldron. His smile would always make my day brighter.

Virginia (Bowers) Tustison - May 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ Jhonyies Barber on Central Mall for many years.a favorite customer I will always remember his great smile. My sympathyies to Marion and son"s. sinceraly Bob

Bob Knight - May 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ a true believer in the word lived it each and every day

james forbes - May 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ We will remember Johnny with a smile.The world was a better place because he was here.Evelyn and Dub

Evelyn and Dub Smalling - May 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PN

“ Marion and Family.. sorry for your loss...Johnie was a very Special person...God Will Bless....your all in our thoughts and prayers...

Phillis Dickie Newberry - May 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Thinking of you with deepest sympathy.

Ramon and Marie Bujarski - May 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I only just now heard we lost Johnnie. He sure will be missed. He has always been so kind and fun to be around. He also sure has been a good friend of the Sawyer family. Praying for all the Wards as they grieve.

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**Meg Sawyer** - May 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Marion, I have just now read of your loss. May you and your family find comfort in knowing so many care.

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**Jonnie Sue Harris** - May 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VS

“ Marion & Family,  
My deepest sympathy to you  
at this difficult time! Johnnie  
was a long-time friend & like  
everyone who knew him, he  
will be remembered as a very loved &  
special person! God Bless You!  
Virginia Horn Sizemore

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**Virginia Horn Sizemote** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ He was such a wonderful man and so good to me growing up!! He inspired me more than any one I know!! Will miss his hugs! My heart goes out to all his family we love yall

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**Margie Rosenthal** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ I have only known Johnie for a couple of years but i could see his heart in everything he said and did. It was obviour that he loved life, people and espically The Lord Jesus Christ. All we are doing with Johnie today is saying goodbye and i will see you soon. If you want to see him again it is for sure you will have to put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation and then we can meet Johnie at the gate!!

*Collins Andrea Lane*

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**Collins Andrea Lane** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ Marion, Steve, Mark, Phillip, and families:  
We sorry for your grief, but are joyful for Johnie?s life promotion to be with his Lord and Savior. Proverbs 17:22a says, ?A joyful heart is good medicine?? We will all miss Johnie?s joyful heart and contagious laughter, but we have the promises of God we will see him again. We pray God?s Spirit provide you great comfort and abundant strength

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**Wyatt, Deborah, and Hannah Watkins** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

OT

“ Mariam Marie and families, my thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. I will always remember Johnie as the kindest, sweetest boy and later man. He will be so missed.

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**Ocie Faye Tull Tinder** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *What a Wonderful, Wonderful man. I know he will be missed beyond belief! I am so glad I had the privilege to know Johnie, and to be to one of the many to receive his hugs and see that great smile! Love to all the family.*  
*Charlie and Suzanne Hayes*

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**Suzanne Hayes** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *I am so saddened to hear of your loss. Johnie was a very special person. You could always see the reflection of Jesus in his actions and personality. He will surely be missed.*

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**Mike House** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ *Just hold on to all the good memories that you have of Johnie.*

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**Pat & Gerri Biggs** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *What a Man!!!! He always has a smile on his face and his hugs will be missed dearly. My favorite thing about him was his funny stories. I'm always telling my kids a funny from Johnie. I know when he walked into heaven he jumped and clicked his heels together and pointed that finger. (like he always does)*  
*He has the funniest and most infectious laugh. He will be dearly missed. I'm so glad he was a part of my life and church family.*

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**Steve, Dilena, Jace, & Maylee Ewing** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ *To the family of Johnie Ward, I am saddened by your loss and my heart goes out to you all during this difficult time.*

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**Brad Evans** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ *Marvin, Kathy, Joe-Bill and everyone else.*

*Sandy and I just wanted to say that you all will be in our prayers at this difficult time.*

*Mack & Sandy barker*

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**William (Mack) & Sandy Barker** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ *Johnie was one of the kindest and most loving men I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I know that he and my father are sitting up there telling some real good stories right now. :)*

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**Karen Simpkins Gordon** - May 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ *Johnie will be missed, but we have the promise of an eternity in Heaven with our loved ones who had Jesus as their savior. I appreciate the Christian home that Johnie and Marion provided my husband, Philip.*

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**Cheryl Ward** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Our deepest sympathy for your loss. Prayers of comfort for you all and praises that he is singing with God in heaven*  
*Love, The Broussard Family*

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**kristi broussard** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WK

“ *Johnie will sure be missed. You couldn't be around him without feeling the presence of the Lord. His smile was contagious. We loved it when he would come to our gideon services at Waldron PCG. Our loss is Heaven's gain. This isnt goodbye, just see ya later. Prayers to the family.*

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**Wilson, Tanya, Autumn & Logan Kennedy** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ *So sorry to hear of Johnie's passing. He was such a special person that will be dearly missed by all that knew and loved him. Thinking of you all at this time.*

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**Ann Bingham** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ *We were so sorry to hear of Johnny's passing. He was such a kind and special man that will be missed by so many people. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of his family.*

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**Neal and Paula Sparks** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *Mr. Johnie was a special man. He always had a big, contagious smile and a hug or a handshake to give. It was a blessing to know him.*

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**Cortney (Owens) Bradbury** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Randal & Fran Broomfield** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

IL

“ *Our sympathy to the Family*

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**Ivan & Beverly (Shaddon) Liles** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *What a great man he was,I know the good lord was waiting with open arms.May peace be with you all.God bless you and yours.*

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**DORIS J.BARKER-OLIVER** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *We will be praying for your family during this time of sorrow.He truly will be missed by everyone that knew him becuase he was a true genuine one of a kind.We will dearly miss him coming into the store because he always had a story to tell that always left a smile on your face.*

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**All Your Friends at Rice Furniture** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Marion thinking of you and your entire family during this time of sorrow. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Terry,Susan ,Brenden & Braxten Beaty** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *My Sympathy goes out to the Family,He will surely be missed.When I was a Policeman,I used to tell him if everyone was like him we wouldn't need a Police Dept.Rest in Peace old Buddy.*

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**Bill Luttrell** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ We will all miss this wonderful man of our community. Our prayers are with all of his family & loved ones.

Sid & Jan Hunt - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ thinking of you guys  
Richard and Nancy Stevens

Richard Stevens - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ I'm so sad of Johnie's passing, but rejoice in knowing that he is with his Lord who he diligently served. I will forever remember his smile, his hugs and his genuine caring personality. Thank you, Johnie, for blessing my life! Love. Patti.

Dave & Patti Roets & Family - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Loved Johnie and his personality. Know he will be missed by all.

Denise (Morgan) Pittard - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ A very hard worker who knew how to raise a family and great friends to every one. Lord bless his family and ease their pain on the loss of this Fine person.

Charles E Bud Reves - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Marion and family, I was so sorry to hear about Johnie. He was such a kind, generous man whom obviously loved his family and the Lord. I was blessed to have known him and I will miss his sweet smile and hearing him sing. Love and Prayers, Courtney

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**Courtney Tallmadge Johnson** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ May God hold you in his arms during this sad time.

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**Mary Moody Pendergraft** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

OL

“ Marion Marie, I was shocked and saddened to learn of Johnie's death. He was such a fine person and had a wonderful sense of humor. You couldnt be around him for a minute before smiling or laughing at something he said. I hate for our world to lose people like Johnie but knowing where he is and that we will see him again makes it more bearable. My prayers are with you and your family. Love, Oleta

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**Oleta Goodner Lewis** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Such a precious man who loved Jesus Christ with all his heart, his soul, his mind and his strength. We both loved his smile, his kind and joyful attitude. He really exhibited the Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. WOW! He is with Jesus! Pray the LORD will wrap HIS KIND and LOVING arms around his precious wife, sons, grandchildren and great-children and help them through this very hard and difficult time. JESUS promises to comfort those who mourn.

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**Dr. Larry and Jeania Brown** - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ we were sorry to hear about your loss you and the families are in our prayers and thoughts

kenneth and janet hunt - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Johnie was one of a kind. He was always a big fan of me as was I of him.

Scott Thompson - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Always enjoyed hearing him speak at Bro. Hunt's church. He always had a great sense of humor and was a very kind man. He will be greatly missed!

RICHARD & JAMI WRIGHT - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Johnie will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was a great friend to us when we lived in Waldron and he and Marion were the best neighbors anyone could ask for...We loved them both!

Bill and Betty Philpot - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Our prayers are with you and your family. We truly lost a wonderful man.

Mary K. Stinson - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HE

“ *Johnie was such a special person. He was always a joy to visit with and he will be greatly missed. My heart goes out to the family during this time.*

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**Heather Epperson** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ *We've all dreaded this day because we knew it would be so difficult for us to have to give him up. But if ever there was a man who went to Heaven shouting, it was Bro. Johnie. He was a precious, Christian man, so grounded in his faith and love for God that it was impossible not to be uplifted by his joyful smile and words of love and encouragement. We'll miss him for our own selfish reasons, but this is truly Heaven's gain today. May God comfort you, Family, and give you strength and understanding and know your friends are praying for you. He was one of a kind and left us all an amazing legacy and a gift and he'll never be forgotten.*

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**Carolyn & Michael Hanna** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ *Johnie was a wonderful Christian and great witness. I loved him dearly. You will be missed Johnie.*

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**Eva Rogers** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *Johnie Ward*

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**janice watkins** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

T(

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. May God help you find comfort.*

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**Tim and Kim (Fosnaugh)Defoor** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Our thoughts & prayers to the Ward family. Johnny was a friend to all who knew him. We are all so blessed to have had Johnny as our friend. Your Friends, Jerry & Judy Montgomery

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**Jerry & Judy Montgomery** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Johnnie was such a sweet man. He always had a smile on his face and made my day a little better. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. An Angel on earth went home to Heaven.

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**Brandee Brown** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ I never saw Johnnie when he wasn't in a good mood and smiling. He certainly "lived on the sunny side of life." Prayers and sympathy to the family.

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**Keith Holleman** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Johnnie, I'm gonna miss you and your sweet voice singing. I still remember you leading the song service at Evening Shade for our revivals. You will be greatly missed.

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**Doris Graves** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ To all of you, I am so very sorry for your loss. I don't guess I ever saw Johnnie when he wasn't smiling! He will be missed so very much by everyone--keeping you all in my prayers.

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**Darla Dozier** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Johnie will be missed by everyone who he came in contact. His love of his Lord and Savior were always first in his thoughts and he wasn't ashamed to show it. Our thoughts and prayers are for his family during their time of sorrow. God Bless and keep each of you in his hands.

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**Roy & Carolyn Killion** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

"P

“ Marion & family, sorry to hear about Johnie Ray, he was a wonderful, Godly man. I enjoyed being in church with him & visiting with him at Mrs. May's for lunch. He will be Greatly missed. My thoughts & Prayers are with you & your family.

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**"Jeto" Piles** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ Prayers to all of the family for comfort and peace at this sad time. Johnie was such a special man and always happy and full of goodness. He will always be remembered as a special friend!

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**Teresa Houston Culpepper** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Marion and family,  
You are all in my thoughts and prayers during this time. Pappy will be missed by many. He was one of a kind!  
Amber and family

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**Amber Moody Bartlett** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ God bless the entire Johnie Ward family. We all know where he is now.

*With much love.*  
*Richard McClendon*

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**Richard McClendon** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ Mark our thoughts and prayers are with you and all your Family.

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**Bill and Carolyn Needham** - May 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM