



Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward

January 4, 1948 - September 30, 2024

Final Tribute of a Life Well-Lived

Bobby 'Joe' Ward was born on January 4, 1948, to the late Frankie Lee and Dossie Mae Frazier Ward in Emerson, Arkansas. He was the second of their children and grew up in a close-knit family. At a young age, Bobby accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at New Hope Baptist Church in Emerson, a faith that remained central throughout his life.

Bobby pursued his formal education at McMittress School in Emerson, AR, graduating in 1966. He then continued his studies at AM&N (University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff), where he majored in Agronomy. During his time on "the Yard," Bobby was affiliated with the Royal Knights Society. He also became a proud member of the Beta Theta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., joining the Spring 1969 line as "3 Bandinos" alongside his brothers, Frank Haynes and John Harris. In 1970, without knowing it at the time, he met his future wife and college sweetheart, Brenda Ann Russell. That same spring, Bobby earned his bachelor's degree.

For over four decades, Bobby applied his passion for soil science as a State Soil Scientist with the United States Department of Agriculture, NRCS. His career, spanning 43 years, took him across the U.S. and beyond, allowing him to contribute to significant soil research projects not only at home but also in

places like the United Kingdom and Africa. His expertise led to the publication of a book on soil usage, focusing on sandy loam soils and septic tank use. Bobby retired in 2007, leaving behind a legacy of dedication and knowledge.

Bobby was a man of deep faith, humility, and strength. He is preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, his grandson Daniel 'Danny' Jackson, and his beloved nieces Cindy Jermany and Sondra Ehirim.

Bobby leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish his memory. He is survived by his devoted wife of 52 years, Brenda Ann Russell Ward of Arlington, TX; his son, Tranardo De'Andre Ward, Sr. of Arlington, TX; his niece, Blair Bell of Arlington, TX, whom he lovingly raised as his daughter; his grandchildren, Cameron Hughes Ward, Chloe Powell, An'Helina Ward, Isaiah Byrnes, Tranardo Deandre Ward, II., Talia Ann Ward, Kane Selders and Kai Richardson; a great grandson Reign Purcell; and eight siblings: Bernice Davis of Little Rock, AR, Sue (Timothy) Jermany of Emerson, AR, Mae (Mike) Moore of Alexandria, LA, Gloria Ward of Emerson, AR, Mitch (Bruce) Ward of Manhattan Beach, CA, Ricky Ward of Forest City, AR, Margie (Leonard) Williams of Haynesville, LA, and David Ward of Dallas, TX. He is also survived by his aunts, Margie Ward of Magnolia, AR, and Vider Frazier Kennedy of Ruston, LA, along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends, including best friend Robert 'Rob' Malone.

Bobby's life was one of quiet accomplishment, laughter, and love. He touched the lives of many and leaves a legacy that will continue through the memories of all who were blessed to know him

Funeral Services are as follows:

Wake: Thursday October 10, 2024

5:00 PM @ Peaceful Rest Funeral Home in Dallas, Texas

3302 East Illinois Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75216

Funeral: Friday October 11, 2024

1:00 PM @ R.L. Reed Funeral Home in Magnolia, Arkansas

100 Us-79, Magnolia AR. 71753, under the direction of Peaceful Rest Funeral Home in Dallas, Texas, with interment to follow at New Hope Cemetery in Emerson, Arkansas.

Cemetery Details

New Hope Cemetery

Columbia Road 14
Emerson, AR

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

R.L. Reed Funeral Home Chapel
100 HWY 79 NORTH
Magnolia, AR

Tribute Wall

NM

“ *Natasha Mixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward*



Natasha Mixon - November 14, 2024 at 06:14 PM

GW

“ *Gloria Ward lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward*



Gloria Ward - November 12, 2024 at 04:37 PM

GW

Miss you so much. Love you brother.

Gloria Ward - November 12, 2024 at 04:39 PM

GW

Missing you more each passing day. Your sis .

Gloria Ward - September 30, 2025 at 11:18 AM



“ Bobby and I started working together in the Soil Conservation Service back in the 1980's. He was the soil scientist in an area office in Indiana and I was the state biologist in Ohio. His supervisor (Bill/Rocky) hosted staff from OKI (Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana on multiple occasions. Ohio and Michigan also had a rotation for a state staffs to get together and compare notes (Farm Bill programs were really challenging). Around 1994/5 SCS reorganized into the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Bobby and I got promoted to GS-15's serving as internal program 'auditors' -- called Oversight and Evaluation Program staff. We traveled the USA together on multiple occasions and attempted to make sense of Farm Bill changes and how individual States were implementing and spending the funding. In 2005 I relocated to Fort Worth and began supplying Bobby with used cars! More info if needed. His first kidney transplant occurred in Fort Worth and our local staff were at hospital to cheer him up. Unfortunately, the first donor wasn't perfect and years of dialysis followed. But Bobby persevered with a smile and that great laugh! We kept in contact after his retirement in 2007 and mine 2010. In summary, I'll miss him forever!

Romy Myszka - October 12, 2024 at 06:55 PM



“ Mary S. Pickings sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward



Mary S. Pickings - October 11, 2024 at 11:08 PM

GB

“ To Brenda Ward, Trenardo, the grand children, and Bobby's brothers and sisters, I would like to offer my heartfelt condolences to each of you. Bobby was a mentor, friend and brother...He will be greatly missed.

Gerri Bond, Indianapolis

Gerri Bond - October 11, 2024 at 08:38 PM

GC

“ Prayers of comfort for the family of Mr. Bobby Ward. GOD BLESS 🙏 🙏 🙏



Gwen Carter - October 11, 2024 at 04:12 PM

BW

“ We extend our deepest condolences and prayers to the family of Brother Bobby Ward. He was such a friendly and outgoing Christian gentleman who was always concerned about his fellowman. He had the ability to make people feel extremely welcome in his home and was constantly talking about the love he had for his family and friends. May God keep His loving arms of protection around his family. Love, Billy and Patricia Williams



Billy and Patricia Williams - October 10, 2024 at 09:37 PM



“ To Brenda and the Ward Family, may I offer my deepest sympathy for your loss to you and your family. I am sorry for your loss and you have my deepest condolences. Vern Glover

Angeline Glover - October 10, 2024 at 09:12 PM

AE

“ Arnetta Easter sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward



Arnetta Easter - October 10, 2024 at 04:17 PM

TE

“ My husband (The late Caldwell Easter Jr.) and Bobby were very close friends and he often shared stories of he and so my others that were in their circle. My God bless and comfort the family as we both mourn the passing of our love one.
Tearee Easter



Tearee Easter - October 10, 2024 at 02:50 PM

RM

“ Ronald Morton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward



ronald morton - October 10, 2024 at 01:22 PM

DH

“ Dearlean Hughes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward



Dearlean Hughes - October 09, 2024 at 11:20 PM

DF

“ Dianne Fields lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward



Dianne Fields - October 09, 2024 at 03:45 PM

DF

Praying strength for the entire family. Class mate "1966"

Dianne Fields - October 09, 2024 at 03:46 PM

TT

“ Travis Tucker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby 'Joe' Ward



Travis Tucker - October 09, 2024 at 01:27 PM