



Dave Austin

February 17, 1951 - March 17, 2020

Robert David “Dave” Austin, Sr., 69, of Fort Payne, passed away March 17, 2020. He was born February 17, 1951 in Sylacauga, Alabama to the late Willie Ralph and Lois Ellison Austin. Mr. Austin was a talented artist who loved to paint and was the author of the book *Shot From Taw*. He enjoyed being outdoors hiking and trout fishing and loved grand adventures with Papa and his grandchildren. While he loved and adored his family, his greatest love was for the Lord. It was his desire for other to know God’s Truth. Written in the front of his travel Bible were the words “Make plans so big that you will fail without God” and for all to realize that we are a part of His perfect plan.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Myra Gooden Austin; daughter, Ellison Pitts; son, Rob Austin and wife, Ashley; beloved grandchildren, John Austin and Sam Pitts and Charlie and soon to arrive, Baby Girl Austin; brothers, Perry Austin and wife, Carol, Steve Austin, and Bill Austin and wife, Nancy; mother-in-law, Jean Baxley; brother-in-law, Ben Baxley and wife, Nacole; sister-in-law, Carol Haynes and husband, Rick; step-mother-in-law, Kathleen Gooden and family; and several nieces and nephews.

The family plans to arrange a memorial service at a later time.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dave Austin*

January 12, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ *I got to know Dave when I worked for Target in Minneapolis. He would travel with Archie Fortune, Steve & Tommy Rhyne to do hosiery business with me. I would depict him as a Fine Southern Gentleman. He was always strait forward and incredibly honest in his presentations. I am actually still wearing the "Old Guys Rule" sox he sent me. He loved to play golf and we spent many rounds together. He also loved Myra and his family very much. He always had that cute smile on his face when telling about what was going on with his family. Hearing of his sudden death certainly was shock to me and my sons who also knew him. He will be missed, but is at Peace in the hands of the Lord. Walt Bielke*

Walt Bielke - March 31, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ *David was my room mate in Asheville NC (actually Black Mountain) in 1973-74 when we both worked for Avondale Mills. We spent every weekend driving home to Alabama. I cannot begin to tell you all the laughs and serious talks we had. I'm so sorry for your loss. David was truly special!*

Don Adams - March 22, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ *Myra & family my heart breaks for you. It has been a long Time since I last saw you and David at an SHS class reunion and you two were beaming you looked so happy! I remember David from elementary to junior high at B.B. Comer then he went to Sylacauga high School where he finished with my husband Steve Pullen. I always liked David . He was always grinning and was such a nice person. Our paths never crossed again but I have thought about you both a lot over the years and always hoped you were doing well. Life takes us in a lot of different directions. I'm sorry we never got to see you again but just know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. ❤️ Brenda (Smitty) & Steve Pullen*

Brenda Pullen (Smitty) Roswell,Ga - March 21, 2020 at 04:09 PM

DM

“ *Denise Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Dave Austin*



Denise Mitchell - March 21, 2020 at 11:18 AM

SL

“ *His voice, his songs, his lame jokes, his advice, his rants, his motivational speeches, his paintings....are sprinkled through my entire life and tucked in my heart forever. He was bigger than life and we were all blessed to have him in ours.*

susan lingg - March 20, 2020 at 08:10 PM

KD

“ *Kay Davis lit a candle in memory of Dave Austin*



Kay Davis - March 20, 2020 at 04:49 PM

SP

“ *What great memories I have of David and the Austin Family from living in the Walco neighborhood. Listening to David's Mom tell ghost stories and taking all the kids to the White Midget to get burgers. What a thrill to spend the night and get Hawaiian Punch. We played at Alamo behind Walco Grocery, rode bikes around boxing mill and set plastic planes and soldiers on fire in a battle. Later in time David introduced me to Lobster in the Chattanooga Cho Cho restaurant while we were working at Avondale. He talked to me about his book that included the Walco life and i wished i could have set down with him and did another book of how great it was being raised in that time. I will miss him but the memories will last forever of the Great Austin Family that i was so lucky to be around. David, i know Mr. Bill and Mom Lois will be happy to see you again! God Bless the Austin Family.*

steve persons - March 19, 2020 at 06:46 PM

BP

“ Meeting Dave was immediately finding my best friend. We started out laughing together and it never stopped. Our first meeting was to buy a fishing license after he and Myra moved to New Jersey. Our second meeting was to eat dinner that Myra had whipped up, fried chicken, turnip greens and a big iron skillet of cornbread. So, fishing and eating, Dave and I were on the same page right off the bat. He was the only choice as best man at my wedding. We had serious discussions and we had fun discussions. He was always the same. One of the things I respected about him was his dedication to his family. He loved his brothers and he loved Myra , Ellie and Rob. Whenever we talked they all came up in the conversation. I miss him already but I know his faith has helped lead him home.

Bryan Pennington

bryan pennington - March 19, 2020 at 03:37 PM

JO

“ Dave and I have travelled many thousands of miles together the last 30 years. Lots of hard work and tons of good times and laughter. We shared the lord with each other frequently. We both had the best grandchildren in the world. What do you say about someone you were so close to after 32 years. Say hello to Jesus for me and I look forward to all of us being together in eternity. Love to all the family. Joe Prevette

josephprevette - March 19, 2020 at 03:19 PM

PT

“ Bobby& Pam Townson



Pam Townson - March 19, 2020 at 02:39 PM

JH

“ Dave was always very polite and friendly to me. My husband George had huge respect for him. I thought so much of him because he was kind and helpful to George. Maybe they are having a reunion in Heaven now. I'm sorry the family is having to deal with the separation. My heart hurts for you.

Janet Hartline

Janet Hartline - March 19, 2020 at 08:47 AM

HB

“ Great memories of David, Steve, Perry and I playing hundreds of football games in the Haynes field. David was a fun person to be around. He will be greatly missed by many. Continued prayers for the family.

Harold Brooks - March 18, 2020 at 10:54 PM

BH

“ I remember when the kids were little and Dave traveled so much, they were always so excited to see their Daddy walk through the door. I know how proud he was of Ellie and Rob. When pictures were posted on Facebook you could just see the love he had for his grandchildren. Loving husband, Daddy and good friend! RIP my friend. Toby and Becky Hunt

Becky Hunt - March 18, 2020 at 10:38 PM

SM

“ Dave was a kind and soft spoken coworker at DeSoto Mills . His smile was contagious. He will be missed .



Sharon (Mike) McWilliams - March 18, 2020 at 08:11 PM

DB

“ Tall, handsome, good-humored, dimpled, gentle, witty. That is my picture of David. Please accept my sympathy for this great loss. My prayer for you is faith, comfort and beautiful memories to sustain you until the great reunion.

Drucie Brown - March 18, 2020 at 05:39 PM

DB

“ I grew up with David even tho he was younger And loved him as a favorite cousin. He was funny and kind. I love you, Snookie (Diane)

Diane Barr - March 18, 2020 at 05:26 PM



“ David was always a joy to be around and he brought the life to the party. Everyone loved David. First his parents did, then Myra and the children, and then the grandchildren. David also had a wide group of friends who loved him and they were friends with him from childhood on. He also leaves behind three brothers who adored him and all had special and different relationships with him. It was one of his gifts that his customers were his friends too. People were drawn to David for his warmth and his love of laughter. When I was dressing for my wedding, there was a knock at the door and my mother said it was David. I was slightly irritated because I wanted my husband to see my dress first, but I went to the door and my newly- minted brother told me he just wanted to make sure that I was alright-I nearly cried at the sweetness of a man who could be my brother before he was officially my brother. So when you ask us, "Will he be missed?". The answer is how could he NOT.~~Nancy Peavy Austin

Nancy Austin - March 18, 2020 at 03:38 PM

DH

“ Debra Hornsby lit a candle in memory of Dave Austin



Debra Hornsby - March 18, 2020 at 03:24 PM

SD

“ SERVPRO of Decatur purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Dave Austin.



SERVPRO of Decatur - March 18, 2020 at 02:37 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dave Austin.



March 18, 2020 at 01:56 PM