



William "Bill" Baxter

August 2, 1944 - May 29, 2013

Mr. William D. 'Bill' Baxter, age 68, of Forrest City, died Wednesday at his home in Forrest City.

Mr. Baxter was born August 2, 1944, in Paragould, Arkansas, and was the son of Archie Baxter and Carolyn Stevenson Baxter. His childhood home was in Mounds, Arkansas, was 1962 Graduate of Green County Tech where he was all state basketball and baseball.

He was a 1966 Graduate of Arkansas College (now Lyon College) where he was a Math major, Senior Class President, on the Basketball team, and in 1996 was inducted into the Arkansas College Sports Hall of Fame. He taught math and coached basketball in Forrest City, Marked Tree, and Helena. He received his Master's Degree at Arkansas State University in 1970. He began a career in insurance in 1978 and was owner of Baxter and Associates Financial Services. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Forrest City where he was a former Sunday School Teacher, current Trustee, and Past Chairman of the Council on Ministries.

Mr. Baxter was the founder of the Rumble on the Ridge Basketball Tournament, founder of the Forrest City Sports Hall of Fame, member of the East Arkansas Community College Foundation Board. He was past president of the Forrest City Chamber of Commerce, Forrest City Kiwanis Club, St.

Francis County Community Foundation, and the Forrest City School Board.

Mr. Baxter married Holly Almond in 1974, and she survives him along with one son, Casey Baxter, and wife, Jennifer, of Cabot, one daughter, Becca Whitehead, and husband, Christopher, of Oak Forest, one brother, Charley Baxter, and wife, Carole, of North Little Rock, one sister, Becky Mitchell, and husband, Dennis, of Harlingen, Texas, and four grandchildren; Cooper, Ross, Savannah and Madison.

Services for Mr. Baxter will be held at the First United Methodist Church Activity Center, 2:00 P.M. Saturday, with burial in Mt. Vernon Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday evening, 6:00 till 8:00 P.M., in the First United Methodist Church Sanctuary. In lieu of flowers the family request memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 66, Forrest City, Arkansas, 72336. or the Bill Baxter Endowment, St. Francis County Community Foundation, P.O. Box 3002, Forrest City, Arkansas, 72336. You may log on to stevensfuneralhome.net for the on line registry.

Tribute Wall

GM

“ We are saddened by the news of Bill's passing. He was a great friend and teammate and will be missed. Our prayers are with the family.

Gale & Peggy Maag - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

DM

“ I am sorry for your loss.

Donnie Miles - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

MP

“ Dear Holly, We will all miss Bill; however, I know you will miss his most. May God continue to bless and take care of you and family.
Your friend, Myrtle Paige

Myrtle Paige - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

DH

“ Dearest Holly, Casey, Becca and family members.
We didn't know Bill that well but having met him and hearing about his life what comes to mind is what the Apostle Paul said
"Bill has fought the good fight physically, mentally and spiritually.
May God be with you in your grief. Love Darlene and Doug

Doug & Darlene Hunt, - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

RC

“ So sorry to hear about the loss of Bill. He is a man of integrity and someone I have always admired. Bill has truly made a difference in his community and in the many lives of those he has touched. It was a pleasure to work with him over the years at the "Rumble". We will be praying for your family.
Randall

Randall Clark - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

SF

“ When I reflect on growing up in Forrest City, I recollect certain people who really stand out as a positive influence in my life. Coach Baxter was one such man. He was such a caring person. I know my dad loved being his friend through Kiwanis and church. Don't you know they're cutting up together in heaven! My thoughts and prayers are with you as you celebrate Coach's life.

Sue Gattinger Farris - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

JM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We pray that God will give you the strength you will need during this time of loss. We loved him and will miss him.
Love,
Jim and Amanda

Jim and Amanda Morgan - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

CM

“ Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

Lorin & Cynthia Morgan

Cynthia Morgan - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

CM

“ *Holly,
So sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.
Cindy Woerner McCarty*

Cindy Woerner McCarty - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM

SO

“ *Dear Mrs. Baxter, Casey, Becca, and family,*

My name is Steve Owens, the son of the late Tom Owens, and Glenda Owens. First, I apologize for reaching out to you so late, as my mom and I both just found out Coach's passing. Coach was my 1st baseball coach. Part of the reason I love the game so much and tried to make a profession out of it was the great experience I had playing on his team my first year when I was little. I've never forgotten that, and how well both my dad did talk about, and how my mom still talks about your family. I hope these last few months have been comforting and again, I'm so sorry for your loss, and apologize for such the lateness of this. Take care, and God Bless you all.

Steve Owens

Steve Owens - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 PM