



Billy Wayne Henderson

October 3, 1941 - October 26, 2017

Billy Wayne Henderson 76 , was born in Kirkmansville, KY on October 3, 1941 to Jennie Spurlin Henderson & Huel Henderson of Hopkinsville, KY

Siblings : Oldest brother ; Elmer Henderson (82 -deceased) of Hopkinsville, KY, Annis Marie Henderson-Johnson (sister- 48, deceased)Louisville, KY, Glendale Henderson (brother- 62, deceased) of Hopkinsville, KY, Delmond Henderson (Retired Sheriff - 80) of Hopkinsville, KY, Ronald Sherwood Henderson (Retired Military & Industry 69) of Hopkinsville, KY

Billy's kids : Brett Anthony Henderson (55) Wife: Debbie, of Foley, AL; Basil DeWayne Henderson (54) Wife: Lora, of Elberta, AL; Billy Dion Henderson (48) Wife: Charity, of Elberta, AL and Buffy Henderson Madden (45) Husband: Timothy, of Lillian, AL.

Billy Grandkids: Jeffery (J.B.) Henderson of Hopkinsville KY; JoAnn Skinner, Husband: Jeremy Skinner of Foley, AL ; Timothy (T.J.) Madden of Lillian, AL ; Dawn Adams, Husband: Stephen Adams, of Elberta, AL; Marissa Henderson of Elberta, AL Amanda Myers of New Orleans, LA , Amber McDaniel, Husband: Woody McDaniel of Bessemer, AL; Autumn Henderson of New Orleans, LA; Ashlynn Henderson of New Orleans, LA

Billy Great-Grandkids: Kaden Henderson (9), Braidyn McDaniel (5)of Bessemer, AL; Kaleb McDaniel (5)of Bessemer, AL , Adaline McDaniel (1) of Bessemer, AL ; Jadyynn Skinner - Bug (4) of Foley, AL

**He was many things to many people from a devoted Husband, Brother, Father, Grandfather, and Great Grandfather.

Billy W. Henderson (18) started this story when he seen this young lady named Barbara Nell Walker (19) . In March of 1960, he and his friend decided to pay her and her sister a visit at their home in a little town called Tywappity Kentucky. This is when this love story begins.... He meet the love of his life that spring day and came back again and again till this young lady agreed to go out with him. It was only on a double date with her and her sister did he get to know her for the first time. However he knew he was already in love with her, and she was going to be his wife, the mother of his children. It took 3 years of courtship but she finally said yes and those two boys that showed up on those two sisters front porch that March day where now brother-in-laws and this started the beginning of a great story.

Now newly weds Billy and Barbara move to Evansville, IN and Billy starts working in a factory as they find out they are having a bouncing baby boy. Both were so excited, however, Billy was literally jumping for joy for days, he now had someone to start showing all those great traditions his father has showed him. This was Brett and he was so proud of his baby boy. It was said Billy was one of those men that could not wait to be a daddy.

Then just a year and a half later, this happy couple found out baby number two was on the way. Another baby boy, Wayne, twice the joy and fun. Now dad had two boys to show off and take fishing, to the park, to grandma's house. He had his perfect little family, that he always wanted and he was working hard to provide everything they wanted and a beautiful wife, he had it all. Not only did he work hard but he was a skilled craftsmans, he could make anything with his hands and a piece of wood, toy boxes, toy cars, horses, clocks, and entertainment centers.

As things went on and jobs changed, around 1968 they decided to move back to Hopkinsville to be next to Billy's Mom and Dad, it was around this time they found out they were having baby number three, hoping for a baby girl, they found out they were having a healthy baby boy so they named him Billy Dion (almost a Jr) and decided to continue one more time for a girl. Three years, three months and three days later finally they had their last child a baby girl:

Buffy.

- Fun Fact: Everyone's First Names Begin with B's
- Oldest Child and Youngest Child - Same initials = BAH
- Middle Children - Same initials = BDH

RACING HISTORY:

Around 1965-1966, while in Indiana Billy had another love - RACING - him and another brother-in-law, decided to build a race car and go race on the dirt tracks in Evansville, IN. This was no small hobby. This took many hours in the shop building and putting together the perfect car, and motor to put on the track. Each weekend was an adventure and a new story, one of my favorite: Dad said just about every weekend "Darrell Waltrip" would show up AWOL with the MP's waiting on him at the end of the race to take him back to base. He said he also ran against CooCoo Marlin on those same dirt tracks in Evansville.

This love for racing continued for more than 40+ years, as he passed this love and desire down to his oldest son: Brett Henderson who he helped build, design, engineer, find sponsors, be part of his pit crew, tire crew, you name it he did it.... For over 25+ years. They races all over the "Southeastern Dirt Track" of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and "WON MULTIPLE CHAMPIONSHIPS". - This love even extended over to the grandkids when Billy decided at the ages of 13 and 10 years of age J.B. and T.J. needed a "Dirt/Mud Truck" so he built them one so they could compete with adults, they won multiple trophies. Billy even bought the grandkids and himself and entire slot car track business that shut down just to have to play with at home because it was like a miniature race car track. This was love and shows he was a grandfather that loved to spoil his grandchild beyond normal ranges.

STORY OF BILLY'S ONE EYE:

Sometime in 1969 while working for a logging company deep in the woods in Greenville, Kentucky, Billy was splitting/chopping something called "stay bolts"

and a piece of metal came of the splitting wedge he was using and went into his left eye. Causing tremendous pain and blood he was forced to walk approximately a half mile out of the woods only to be driven to the nearest ER. There he was told they seen nothing in his eye. Still being in pain he continued to the next town, which was over 2 hours away, and went to the next ER. There they found the piece of metal in his eye and gave him the news he would lose his eye and it would have to be replaced with a prosthetic eye.

This changed so many things for him, from driving to shooting a gun, he had to readjust so many things in his life it took him a long time to adjust to this loose however once he overcame the challenges he never let him slow him down any more. Later in life he just liked to scare his kids by taking out the glass eye and laying it around as a practical joke... typical Billy humor.

KENTUCKY TO ALABAMA

Billy had several occupations throughout his life ranging from assembly line factory work in Evansville, IN to sharecropping on a 500 acre farm in Hopkinsville, KY with livestock, tobacco and even strip mining coal at one time in the hills of Kentucky. However his real trade was finishing sheetrock which lead Billy to Elberta, AL around 1983 when the Gulf Coast was still rebuilding after Hurricane Fredrick.

Billy had several other good friends from Kentucky that had ventured down to the Gulf Coast for jobs he took a leap of faith and came down with his family and found a stable job with a gentleman and later good friend, named Donnie Walker. He worked for Donnie for approx. 14-15 years before he was forced to retire due to a triple by-pass. However he had many good years with Donnie and thought of him as not only a boss, co-worker but part of the family. He loved all of Donnies kids: Jared, Brent and Nathan and was very proud of them and their accomplishments and spoke of them often.

Billy, Barbara and the kids moved to Alabama in 1983 (34 years) with very little, however we have made this our home, made some of the best friends that we call family. Our kids have now married, have families and kids of their

own and we hope our family has made an impact in your families live and that some of you reading this story had the pleasure of meeting our amazing father. He truthfully was a blessing to our family and for those who knew him knows he was one of a kind.

FISHING:

Billy loved to fish, he started fishing at a very early age with his father. This love grew stronger when he had kids, as soon as the boys got old enough to hold a fishing pole he took Brett and Wayne fishing. There are many pictures of the kids with lines of fish that are so big they can not even hold them up. There were days fishing as kids we kept him so busy taking fish off the hook and putting bait on the hooks he never got to fish himself but he got just as much joy from watching our faces and enjoyment as kids catching fish rather than fishing himself. This treatment continued all the way to his grandkids, even though he loved fishing and catching fish... he got more pleasure from watching those he loved having fun, while he worked his butt off trying to keep up with keeping up with the kids. -- HE LOVED THIS and he let the grandkids bring friends, the more kids the better.

Only one of his kids have the true passion he did for fishing and that is Brett, now retired from the City of Foley. Brett is carrying on the tradition of spending days on the lake fishing just like Billy liked to do day after day. Billy went with Brett last year and caught a BIG catfish. It was a very good day.

Billy had many loves in his life and had many layers to his life depending on which time period you meet him. If you meet the young wild Billy you know he was a wild partier who drank with the best of them, never turned down a cold beer (Old Milwaukee, Bush -was his favorite). He lead this lifestyle for many years but always took care of his family first. However he was well known as "WILD BILL" and that name is his legacy just as any other and he was very proud of that name so we have to mention this part of him because we loved this side of him too.

Or if you meet him as he was getting older, settling down, becoming more of a

family man - he would tell you not to drink, smoke it was bad for you. He had quit drinking and smoking for more than 20+ years. However he did still dip so take to mind lung cancer can get anyone at any time.

Either way, he was the type of man that would do anything for anyone and give the shirt off his back for anyone in need. If he called you a friend you never had to worry about anything because he had your back to the end. He came from the day where a man's word was his "honor and dignity" and if you did not do what you say you were going to do then you were not a true man. Men held doors for women, women were put on pedestals because they were beautiful. There will never be another man like this one, we are proud to call him our father, brother, husband and friend.

Forever Missed, Loved - Fly High Wild Bill All you Family and Love Ones Arrangements are Entrusted to Cason Funeral Service, Foley, Al.

Tribute Wall

AH

“ *It was my joy to meet Billy and his wonderful family during his last days. He was a man I wish I had known much sooner.*
Angie Harrington, Chaplain at Springhill Hospice

Angie Harrington - October 30, 2017 at 12:47 PM