



## Billy R. Hartgrave

December 14, 1940 - March 9, 2015

Billy Ray Hartgrave, born December 14, 1940 in Russellville AR. Billy passed away March 9, 2015. Billy was preceded in death by his parents, Bill & Elizabeth. He is survived by his sister Donna McDaniel, of Okmulgee, and two brothers, Sam of Tulsa, and Jim of Edmond. He also has many nieces, nephews, great & grand nieces and nephews who all loved their "uncle Bill", as did everyone that ever met and knew this loving and giving man.

Billy's early years were spent as a happy child in AK. In 1950 the family moved to OK where he completed grade school and high school. After finishing high school, he attended Southwestern Bible College in Oklahoma City. After completing his courses, he went into the US Army in November of 1966. While stationed in Fort Bliss, TX, he was injured and then discharged in 1968.

Billy was a long time resident of Okmulgee - he was a friend to everyone! He spent many many hours doing good for others. In 2008 he was given an award for spending 25,000 volunteer hours at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. He trained all the new aids "candy strippers" in jobs to be done at the hospital. On his last visit to the Claremore Hospital, one of the doctors recognized Billy and shared with the family that Billy had given him his "first medical training" when he was a candy stripper at Okmulgee hospital!

His last few years were spent in Claremore, but he continued helping others at the VA center where he lived, doing odd jobs and assisting others as he could. He was the resident Santa Clause for functions sponsored by the VA.

Billy loved going to church, gospel music, country music, and slapstick comedies. His ambition in life was the everyone would know Jesus was his Lord and Savior.

Billy will be missed by all!

Funeral services for Billy will be held at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel, Okmulgee, with Dr. Dennis Taylor officiating. Interment will follow at Okmulgee Cemetery. Services are under the direction of McClendon-Winters Funeral Home, Okmulgee.

# Cemetery Details

## Okmulgee Cemetery

2601 South Wood Drive  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-5109

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

MAR 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - Okmulgee  
303 E. 7th Street  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-1677  
[info@mcclendon-winters.com](mailto:info@mcclendon-winters.com)  
<https://www.mcclendon-winters.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ McClendon-Winters Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Billy R. Hartgrave



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**McClendon-Winters Funeral Home** - March 10, 2015 at 03:58 PM



“ *Billy R. Hartgrave*

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December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Larry And Zandra Christy lit a candle in memory of Billy R. Hartgrave*



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**Larry and Zandra Christy** - March 12, 2015 at 11:11 AM

JH

“ Uncle Bill was an exemplary man, always giving of himself in service to others. I have nothing but fond memories of him and my grandma; teaching us kids to play dominoes and put a little savings into our piggy bank (which magically grew from visit to visit), and taking us out to Walmart to buy us gifts and ice cream. He always made us feel special and talented, encouraging us to get the best grades and follow our dreams, and be kind to each other. I always thought it was this great treat to get invited to go up to his apartment and watch old cartoons and the "Three Stooges" with his contagious, hearty laughter just booming for hours and echoing happiness. Who can forget those hearty bear hugs, and ear to ear grins whenever he saw spotted you coming to see him?

The man really was a giant teddy bear, absolutely full of love. Anyone that donates that much time at the hospital and in service to others is really something special. It's so inspiring to me that his goal in life seemed to be to get others to smile while making their lives better through that warmth and the kind caring for others that his Lord commanded his followers to have. I will never forget this kind and gentle soul I have had the privilege of calling my uncle, and I hope that I can do justice to his memory by continuing his legacy of kindness and love toward all. Rest in peace.

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**Jason Hartgrave** - March 12, 2015 at 10:29 AM

JH

“ God broke the mold when he made Billy Ray. Always helping others. Working many hours for the hospital auxiliary for many years, and it was a great blessing to him. He would tell me how God had blessed him, and how fortunate he was to be able to help those in need. Billy Ray's had the biggest smile...grinning from ear to ear! Great tribute video. Wish I could be there but am with you in spirit and prayer. Thinking about Pops & Mom Hartgrave also at this time. They are missed! Love to all!!

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**JoElla Harwell** - March 11, 2015 at 02:21 PM

JH

“ *Billy was a wonderful guy and such a nice person. When I was a teenager in Okmulgee I went to the same church where his mother taught me in Sunday School. My best wishes go to his family and friends.*

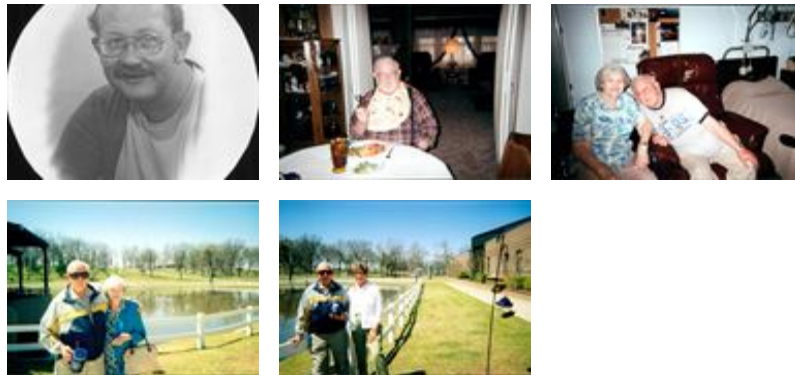
*Jerry Horn in New York*

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**Jerry A. Horn** - March 10, 2015 at 06:46 PM



“ *59 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**McClendon-Winters Funeral Home** - March 10, 2015 at 03:38 PM

BA

“ *So sorry to hear about the passing of Billy.....Jimmy and Donna our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. Lots of great memories of Billy and you all. Growing up across the street we had the best neighborhood. He is in Heaven with his mom and dad and other family and friends that have gone before him. What a reunion they are having. Billy is free from all health problems and Celebrating in Heaven.....*

*Love You All*



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**Becky Arnold** - March 09, 2015 at 05:21 PM

BA

*Sam, I am so sorry I forgot to put your name on here. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family too. Lots of great memories of Billy and you all. Growing up across the street we had the best neighborhood. He is in Heaven with his mom and dad and other family and friends that have gone before him. What a reunion they are having. Billy is free from all health problems and Celebrating in Heaven.....  
Love and Prayers*

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**Becky Arnold** - March 09, 2015 at 06:01 PM

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“*Donna and family, Prayers for you in this time of grief. Billy was a loving person. We will miss him but we know where he is. Welcome Home Billy.*



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**Char Adams OHS 1960** - March 09, 2015 at 04:26 PM