



Samuel L. Benson

August 8, 1942 - January 4, 2021

Samuel Luther Benson, of Travelers Rest, SC, died Monday, January 4, 2021 at the age of 78.

He was born in Greenville County, SC, 8 Aug 1942. He was the son of the late Frank Fulton Benson and the late Virginia Recil Buchanan. He was a Class of 1960 graduate of Travelers Rest High School, where he was active in student government.

He served with the U.S. Army's 549th Military Police Company, Fort Davis, Panama Canal Zone, 1964-1965. He began work in 1960 for Stone Manufacturing and had a career of nearly 40 years in the Upstate before retiring in 1998.

Sam served as Song Leader of Cross Plains Baptist Church for 37 years; as Vice President, South Carolina Singing Convention, and as Secretary/Treasurer, North Greenville Singing Convention. A Founding Charter Member and Founding Board Member of the Travelers Rest Historical Society, he served as Museum Docent and was active in storytelling events.

He also was an active member of the Upcountry Friends historical association and enjoyed playing softball for work and church leagues.

Sam loved family, history, fishing, singing, horseshoes, and Wednesdays at the Pickens Flea Market. He was a lifelong member of the Travelers Rest community. In the fall, the City of Travelers Rest issued a Proclamation declaring 18 September 2020 as Sam Benson Day.

He was predeceased by his parents, his brothers Roland J. Benson and James B. Benson, and his nephew Tim Kidd. He is survived by his sister Beth Benson Kidd of Tullahoma, TN, and his sister Nancy Benson Evatt of Seneca, SC, and beloved cousin Helen Iler Gravley and her family of Travelers Rest, SC. He also is survived by niece Sandra Kidd of Atlanta, GA, nephew Gary Kidd and wife Tammie of Tullahoma, TN, and nephew John Evatt and wife Janet of Seneca, SC, and their families.

The family wishes to thank the staff at River Falls Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Marietta SC and Traditions Hospice of Greenville for their compassion and care.

A private graveside service will be held Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at New Liberty Baptist Church in Travelers Rest, SC, with burial immediately following at the New Liberty Baptist Church Cemetery.

No flowers will be accepted. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed to Traditions Health Hospice of Greenville, 10 Enterprise Blvd, Suite 202, Greenville SC 29615.

Cemetery Details

PRIVATE BURIAL

Tribute Wall



“ *Samuel L. Benson*

November 28, 2022 at 01:49 PM



“ *Will always remember his love and kindness from our first meeting at Cross Plains Baptist Church I was maybe 6 years old. My son Forrest and I seen Sam most every week in Pickens. He will be greatly missed. Prayers for family.*



Pauline Segar - February 13, 2021 at 12:24 AM



“ *I remember Sam from Cross Plains, but if any member passed you always knew Sam would come to pay his respects. Also saw him several times at Hardee's RIP. Wanda Pruitt Gambrell*



Wanda Gambrell - January 15, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ *TOM WALDROP lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson*



TOM WALDROP - January 13, 2021 at 01:25 PM

JE

“ Well Sam today was beautiful, and me and the kids finally got the last word lol you always loved picking on us telling us to go jump in the lake or go play in the road, and how you would whoop us, well I would love to hear you say that just one more time , glad my kids were able to spend Christmas with you and make memories with you up until your last day here! Tyler's favorite memory is you always going to veterans day at his school and he took it hard today but the kids went to your land after the funeral and hung out talking about their times with you! Keep leading that singing in heaven and we'll all see you again one day ! Love, killer
(Killer the name Rol and Sam gave me many years ago and they never called me by name after giving it to me)

Jenn - January 07, 2021 at 03:49 AM

JG

“ Janet Buchanan Gravely lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson



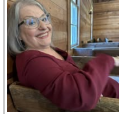
Janet Buchanan Gravely - January 06, 2021 at 06:04 PM

TB

“ Tim Batson lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson



tim batson - January 05, 2021 at 02:38 PM



I am just hearing about this today, April 12th. I am saddened by this news. I loved Sam.

Vicki Rainey - April 12, 2021 at 09:31 PM

JC

“ *Janet Chandler lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson*



Janet Chandler - January 05, 2021 at 01:05 PM

MJ

“ *I met Sam when I waited tables at The Classic Cafe, his kind and gentle spirit was contagious. He would make sure he arrived before any of the opening waitresses to make sure we weren't left alone that early in the morning. Not many years later he befriended my grandparents and would have dinner with them occasionally. I was blessed to attend Cross Plains Baptist Church with him for many years. He was a true blessing and I will miss my friend. I am so glad you are home now. ❤️*

Mary Jo - January 05, 2021 at 01:03 PM

KM

“ *Kristen Mullis lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson*



Kristen Mullis - January 05, 2021 at 12:18 PM

DH

Dear family so sorry to hear about Sam. He never failed to remind me he was 11 when I was born. He and Roland was always visiting my parents. And I will miss Sam. Debbie Hill Hughey (Robert Maxine)

Deborah Hughey - January 05, 2021 at 12:33 PM

TM

“*Dear Family and Friends, we are praying for you all. Sam touched so many lives. There are not enough words to express how much Sam is loved. Sam is no longer suffering but is with Jesus, walking on Streets of Gold, and in a New, Perfect Body. Brother Sam was a friend to my family over 60 years. Sam always greeted everyone with a warm smile and loved everyone. May God provide your each and every need including grace, peace, comfort, love and discernment. I cherish all if the memories and times spent with Sam. If there is someone, either a Friend or Family Member, who is not saved, may this be the time that someone will repent of their sins and accepts Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Remember the special times shared with Brother Sam. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Sam loved his church. He was always faithful to the North Greenville Singing Convention and the SC State Gospel Singing Convention. He made sure everyone had Convention Songbooks. He would tell me he remembered when I was born as my Dad preached Sunday morning at Cross Plains Baptist Church, came home and took Mama to the hospital, I was born, and Dad was back to preach service Sunday Night, June 18, 1967.*

Love and prayers,

Tonya Sabrina Mitchell and Brian Lee Pace

(Daughter of the Late Rev. George J. Mitchell and Ruth Ellen Bates Mitchell)

Tonya Sabrina Mitchell - January 05, 2021 at 09:46 AM

WA

“ Wayne lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson



Wayne - January 05, 2021 at 04:56 AM

JE

“ Jenn lit a candle in memory of Samuel L. Benson



Jenn - January 04, 2021 at 04:55 PM