



Herbert M Witherspoon

September 25, 1953 - January 18, 2025

Herbert "Herbie" Michael Witherspoon, 71, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 18th surrounded by family. He was born on September 25, 1953, in Sumter, South Carolina, and grew up in Crosswell Home for Children. Herbie lived a life marked by dedication, love, and a tireless work ethic that touched the lives of all who knew him. He spent his life working hard to provide for his family and serve his community. He was known for going above and beyond, helping neighbors and always being there when someone needed a hand. One of his greatest joys was being outdoors. In his retirement years from a successful sales and management career (since he would never sit and just be retired) he loved nothing more than mowing the lawn, not just at his own home, but for many neighbors around town. His efforts kept the community looking beautiful and his presence will be deeply missed on those summer days spent tending to the grass and riding on the lawn mower. He was especially proud of maintaining the lawn for many years at Branchville Christian Church, where he was a member for over 35 years; no stray blade of grass went unnoticed.

Herbie had a special fondness for Christmas. For years, he delighted in bringing joy to others by dressing up as Santa Claus, a role he took on with great pride. His front yard became a winter wonderland each December, adorned with a colorful display of Christmas inflatables that brought smiles to all who passed by. His festive spirit and generous heart made Christmas a season to remember for many in town.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Terry, and his children, Caitlyn Frayard (Travis), Chris Carter (Lori), Courtney Beeks (Ethan), Ashleigh Staley, and Elizabeth (Joshua) Johnson. He is also survived by many grandchildren, Autumn and Hunter Carter, Carter and Ayden Beeks, Joseph and Matthew Staley, Samuel Johnson, Ellis and Avery Frayard, great-grandchildren, Oaklynn and Adalynn Ayer and Raelynn Carter, and siblings John (Linda) Witherspoon, Olga Ann Gallo, Barbara Beck, Vickie Gomez, and James Bryant, as well as many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Claude Miller Witherspoon and Fannie Melva Hodge of Sumter, in-laws, D. B. and Carol Williams of Branchville, and many siblings.

Herbie's warmth, humor, and selflessness will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His legacy of hard work, kindness, and Christmas cheer will live on in all of us.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, January 24, 2025, at the Branchville Christian Church with Pastor Justin Cook officiating. Visitation will be held the previous evening, Thursday, January 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Ott Funeral Home.

Pallbearers are Chris and Hunter Carter, Ethan and Carter Beeks, Travis Frayard, John and Chris Witherspoon, and Kadden Irick.

Tribute Wall



“ 2 files added to the album Obituary Wall



Ott Funeral Home - April 08 at 05:05 PM

PH

“ So very sorry for this loss, we called him Herbie, he rode us on the tractor at Crosswell Children's Home, where I lived for 13 years. I would see him at Ms. Alice's house in Branchville cutting grass, we realized we knew each other from the Children's Home. Such a sweet man. (Paula Hudson)

Paula Hudson - January 24, 2025 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Herbie and his brothers and sisters. Herbie is my uncle I didn't get to spend a lot of time with him , but he was one of the best . Prayers for his wife and 5 children during this time of loss.

Lara Bryant - January 24, 2025 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ Herbie's brothers and sisters from left to right;
John Boyd, Barbara Lynn, Herbert Michael, Olga Ann, Claude Milton and Edwin Horton

Not in the photo,
Curtis, Vickie, Ann, James and Robert

Melinda Johnson / niece - January 22, 2025 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Q: *What will you miss most about Herbert?*

A: Herbie was very special to my family and a wonderful friend. He helped our mother with many things around her house and always made sure her yard looked great. They had a special bond. Our thoughts and prayers are with Terry and the family. Herbie will be missed.

*The children of Rose Maree Bunton
(Jill, Jan, Ray, Bonnie)*

Jan Crates - January 22, 2025 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ *Hoping that you and your family find comfort and peace during this difficult time.*

Kevin and Riley Metts - January 21, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Ott Funeral Home*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Herbert M Witherspoon - January 20, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ *Herbie always had the brightest smile & kindest heart!! He always made our yard look beautiful & I loved our talks afterwards. He knew Kennedy & I loved flowers...so even if one little Tiger lily or even a flowering weed popped up...he would take his time and carefully cut around it. That's the kind of man he was...so thoughtful & loving!! He will be greatly missed!! Lots of love, prayers & comfort to his sweet family.*

Andrea - January 20, 2025 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *Very sorry for your loss* ”

Dale & Marrah Perry - January 20, 2025 at 12:00 AM