



John Franklin Valentine

September 14, 1952 - March 15, 2026

Branchville

Mr. John Franklin (Johnny) Valentine, 66, of Branchville, passed away unexpectedly Monday, March 16, 2026, at his home in Branchville. Johnny was born on September 14, 1959, in Bamberg, SC, to John Franklin (Mary) Valentine Sr of Roanoke, Virginia, and the late Mabris Brabham Valentine of Branchville.

He graduated from Branchville High School in 1978 and attended Georgia Tech. He was also a member of the Branchville Baptist Church. Johnny was a certified OSHA and Plumbing instructor for Home Builders Institute and was employed at Job Corps in Bamberg, SC, since 1999. He loved teaching his students; his passion was not just teaching, but equipping young minds with practical skills to succeed in their own lives.

A talented guitar player and singer, Johnny not only played music, but he felt it in his heart and soul. He was always the spotlight at family gatherings, where he graced everyone with his music while shedding happy, positive light on any situation with his unique sense of humor. He also enjoyed the simple things in life and loved every dog or cat he met.

Survivors include one sister Cheryl (Jack) Davis of Branchville; seven brothers: David (Sandy) of Moneta, VA, Clyde Mixon of Roanoke, VA; Frederick (Andrea) Stokes of Burnt Chimney, VA; Tommy (Jackie) Valentine of Miami, FL; Daniel (Lisa) Valentine of Salem, VA; Eric Valentine of Roanoke, VA; and Ashley Valentine of Roanoke, VA. Johnny was preceded in death by

his sister Sandra Wright of Salem, VA. He also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Saving Animals Southern Style (SASS) Rescue and Sanctuary 2816 Cleveland St; Elloree, SC 29047 A memorial service will be held Thursday, March 19, 11:30 a.m., at Ott Funeral Home Chapel in Branchville, SC. Visitation with family and close friends will be held one hour before the service.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Johnny was a very kind-hearted cousin. Death has a way of humbling the living, but Johnny's demeanor and mannerisms were a great examples of a life of humility. I pray that we meet again, dear friend, inside those gates of pearl. There, you can the angels and me how to play the guitar properly. 🙏🙏🙏

John McAlhany - March 20 at 12:00 AM

K(

“ Johnny you were a great guy and will be missed.

Kimberly Whetstone (Kimmie) - March 20 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Oh my sweet cousin, I have so many memories with you, You took me to my first concert, Which was Willie Nelson, But the most memory I will cherish and miss the most, Is you hey Cindy Lou, I love you cuz, And I'm going to miss, You rest easy now, Till I see you again 😭💔

Cindy Strock - March 19 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Mr. Valentine was a very good co worker,he was always kind & helpful &he always had a good laugh for you, he will be missed by all... 🙏🙏 RIP



Shandika Stroman - March 19 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ I had the great pleasure of knowing Johnny over the past thirty plus years. Whether we were playing gunfighters for Raylrode Daze (his John Digger was legendary), listening to his stories of adventures at the bar, or rocking out with his guitar to some "Night Moves" or "Dixieland Delight", he always wore a smile and had a heart of gold. The world is a better place because he was here, and he will be greatly missed.

Stephanie Player Tant - March 18 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ So thankful to have shared some moments with Johnny. We had some amazing conversations in the local bar and very thankful to have been able to play a little music with Johnny! He was a great performer and everything he did in life came from the heart! I will miss you! Jeff Smith

Jeff Smith - March 18 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Johnny always made me laugh and he loved people and music . Blessed to know him . Praying for his family and friends. He will be missed by all.

Margie Green - March 18 at 12:00 AM

AV

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

A Memorial Tree was planted for John Franklin Valentine - March 17 at 12:00 AM