



Mr. Ed Whatley

January 7, 2021

Ed Whatley, age 73 of Oxford, passed away peacefully on January 7, 2021.

He is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Gayle; his sons, Phillip (Valerie) of Trussville and Alan Whatley of Oxford; his brother, John Whatley (Donna); his granddaughters, Ashleigh, Isabella, and Olivia Whatley; his nieces, Shannon Bowen, Oakley Luker, and Grace Whatley; his sister-in-law, Gwen Mitchell, and his beloved pet, Maggie.

He is preceded in death by his father, Reverend Charles William Whatley, and his mother, Inez McFall Whatley, both of Jacksonville.

Mr. Whatley was a graduate of Jacksonville High School and received his master's degree in Special Education, and his E.Ds. in School Administration from Jacksonville State University.

He proudly served as a sergeant in the United States Air Force with the Strategic Air Command, during the Vietnam War.

Mr. Whatley was an educator for thirty-four years serving in the classroom and as the Community Education Coordinator and Director of the Vocational School with the Anniston City School System, and as the Principal at Oxford High School, Weaver High School, and Walter Wellborn High School. He

influenced the lives of many of his students throughout the years and served as a mentor to young educators across the county.

He served his city in the capacity of Chair of the Oxford Planning Board and the Oxford Water Board. His interest in politics led him to serve as a campaign manager for several local political campaigns.

Mr. Whatley was a self-taught master of the five-string banjo. He happily played his banjo for 45 years with Lynn Payne, David Houston, and Rudy Payne, as Chulafinnee Bluegrass.

He had a deep love of football, serving as a coach in city league football for several years. He had a lifelong love for the Alabama Crimson Tide, which he followed avidly.

He was a man of God and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Oxford.

Mr. Whatley cherished each of his three granddaughters, who were the lights of his life.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 2:00 pm in the main sanctuary at First Baptist Church of Oxford with Bro. Justin Holland officiating. The family will receive friends on the same day from 12:00 pm until the time of the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to The Sparrow's Song, an outpatient treatment facility for infants addicted to drugs taken by the mother during pregnancy. Donations can be mailed to The Sparrow's Song, PO Box 3073 Oxford, AL 36203.

The family requests that all those in attendance please wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Oxford
95 East Oak St
Oxford, AL 36203

Memorial Service

JAN 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Oxford
95 East Oak St
Oxford, AL 36203

Tribute Wall



“ 4 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Miller Funeral Home - January 14, 2021 at 05:11 PM



“ 274 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Miller Funeral Home - January 14, 2021 at 10:59 AM

RB

“ *Cousin Ed held me when I was a baby. He was nine years old. He was a sweet cousin, and very smart. Condolences to Gayle, Alan, Phillip, John, granddaughters, cousins, and many other family members. Love, cousin Robin Ragsdale Bene.*

Robin Bene - January 10, 2021 at 01:26 PM

DT

Mr Whatley was a kind man. He gave me a job as a typing teacher for adult night classes when I was very young. He was a true gentleman and I thanked him a few years ago for giving me a chance. Very few men like him in the world.

Debra Parker Thomas - January 17, 2021 at 07:55 PM

IZ

As a granddaughter of his I thank him very much for always believing in me.

Izzy - September 07, 2024 at 04:37 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mr. Ed Whatley.*



January 10, 2021 at 10:16 AM

DH

“ *Gayle, I'm so sorry to hear this about Ed. You guys have always been the sweetest couple. Sending you prayers and much love.*
Debra Holmes

Debra Holmes - January 08, 2021 at 07:19 PM

VL

“ *I am so sorry Gail , I just saw this and heart broken for you and Family , you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers 🥺*

Vicky Ledbetter - January 08, 2021 at 06:40 PM