



## Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr.

December 21, 1964 - August 6, 2023

Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward, Jr., 58, passed away on Sunday, August 6, 2023, at AnMed Medical Center in Anderson.

Born in Greenville, SC, he was the son of Brenda Laws Ward and the late Maurice Austin Ward, Sr. A lifelong racer, Marty's first race was when he was sixteen years old, and that race propelled it into a lifelong passion. During his racing career he was six-time track champion at Greenville-Pickens Speedway; a three-time South Carolina State Champion in what is known as the NASCAR Advanced Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series; he also participated and won in several notable touring series including the Hooters Pro Cup series, the UARA STARS late Model Series, the NASCAR Sportsman Division and the NASCAR All-American Challenge Series. Earlier this year he had a victory in the Southeast Super Trucks Tour at Anderson Speedway in their opening race for the season. Marty spent his life racing but above all else the thing he treasured most was his family that he loved beyond measure. And with all the accomplishments in his life, his greatest accomplishment was to know that his son would soon to be a Graduate of Clemson University. In addition to his mother, Marty is survived by his son, Jacob Ward; his wife of 30 years, Gina Ward; aunts and uncles, Lynwood and Linda Laws, David Ward and Juanita McAfee (Lloyd).

In addition to his father, Marty was predeceased by his grandparents, Henry and Cora Ward & George and Lois Laws.

The family will receive friends from 5 until 8 PM Tuesday evening at The

Howze Mortuary.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at Clearview Baptist Church.

Burial will be PRIVATE.

Memorials may be made to Cox Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 605 Hart Cut Road, Marietta, SC 29661.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 8. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary  
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369  
Travelers Rest, SC

## Church Service

AUG 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Clearview Baptist Church  
5611 State Park Rd.  
Travelers Rest, SC

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Pat Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Pat Hawkins** - August 09, 2025 at 12:55 PM

DW

“ *alot of racing memories and stories----great person--great driver---  
MAY HE REST IN PEACE FOREVER*

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**DAVE WYNN** - August 16, 2023 at 11:41 PM

PS

“ *Pauline Segar lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Pauline Segar** - August 16, 2023 at 09:45 AM

BC

“ *I was saddened when I heard that Marty had passed away. I grew up watching him race every Saturday night and most of those he won. He had to win to stay in it! That's what I admired the most was his passion for what he loved to do! He touched so many lives in and around the track. I know he will be missed by so many! Lorange I know it was especially hard on you! I pray for peace for all!*

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**Brian Carpenter** - August 13, 2023 at 10:44 PM

JS

“ *Julie Smith lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Julie Smith** - August 12, 2023 at 11:42 AM

JC

“ *James Cowart lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**James (Jim) Cowart** - August 10, 2023 at 06:30 PM

WJ

“ *The entire racing world was stunned to learn of the tragic passing of Marty! As NASCAR's Media Coordinator of the All American Challenge Series I had many opportunities to interact with Marty and introduced him many times to spectators throughout the East. Then when NASCAR's ALL PRO Series competed at Greenville-Pickens he always competed with the series and was a trusted competitor! Marty was always amenable to all interviews and always a fan favorite! His easy going personality and competitive nature was infectious to all. RIP Marty! Thank you for your kindness and friendship! William B Desmond Jr. Lt. Col. USAF (Ret) and NASCAR Media.*

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**William B Desmond Jr.** - August 09, 2023 at 09:36 PM

DJ

“ *Debbie Jewell lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Debbie Jewell** - August 09, 2023 at 04:31 PM

BH

“ *Gina and Family,*

*It saddened me to learn about Marty. I can remember years ago going to Greenville Pickens Speedway and pulling for him always. We don't understand God's plan for our lives but I know Marty is in good hands. May the good Lord comfort and guide you and give you peace in the days to come.*

*Beth Howard*

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**Beth Howard** - August 09, 2023 at 03:06 PM

TF

“ *The Family lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**The Thompson Family** - August 09, 2023 at 02:32 PM

PD

“ *peggy Dickerson lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



peggy Dickerson - August 09, 2023 at 02:12 PM

BJ

“ *Bernice James lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



Bernice Talley James - August 09, 2023 at 12:01 PM



“ *I was Marty's third grade teacher at Slater Marietta Elementary. He was such a sweetheart, and loved races and race cars even then. So sorry I won't be able to attend the funeral, but please know that my prayers are with the whole family!*  
*Debbie White*

Debbie White - August 09, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Chantee Revels lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



Chantee Revels - August 08, 2023 at 11:17 PM

SP

“ Sue Pittman lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Sue Pittman - August 08, 2023 at 09:05 PM

JA

“ Prayers for the family 🙏

judy Alford - August 08, 2023 at 09:03 PM

JA

“ judy Alford lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



judy Alford - August 08, 2023 at 09:01 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..



August 08, 2023 at 06:15 PM

JR

“ Joe Angela Rector lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Joe and Angela Rector - August 08, 2023 at 05:54 PM

MN

“ I am so sorry to hear of Marty's passing. Such a great loss. Lots of memories from watching him race at GPS. My prayers go out to the family. Fly high Marty and keep on racing.  
The Norris Family

Michelle Norris - August 08, 2023 at 05:15 PM

AH

“ Angela Hester lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Angela Whitman Hester - August 08, 2023 at 03:34 PM

TS

“ Teresa Smith lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Teresa Smith - August 08, 2023 at 03:34 PM

AH

“ alan holbert lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



alan holbert - August 08, 2023 at 03:21 PM

SC

“ Gina and Jacob words can't describe what an awesome man Marty was I know that he will be greatly missed by all our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time Tim and Susan Clayton

Susan Clayton - August 08, 2023 at 03:02 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..



August 08, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..

August 08, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



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August 08, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ *Karen Robertson lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Karen E Robertson** - August 08, 2023 at 12:20 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*

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August 08, 2023 at 11:53 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



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August 08, 2023 at 11:53 AM

MW

“ Prayers for the family he raced with my uncle Rodger Gentry for many years. May God wrap his loving arms around you in the days to come. Madonna Wilson



Madonna Wilson - August 08, 2023 at 11:46 AM

SA

“ Sharon arflin lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



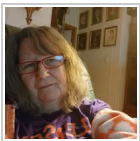
Sharon arflin - August 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM

PH

“ Pam Hamilton lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Pam Holt Hamilton - August 08, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ Brenda I'm so sorry for your loss! Prayers for you, Gina and Jacob! May the Lord be with you all during your time of grief! May He give you strength and comfort! 💖



Wanda Killough - August 08, 2023 at 09:57 AM

AW

“ Anita Williams purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..



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Anita Williams - August 08, 2023 at 09:57 AM

AW

“ Anita Williams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..

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Anita Williams - August 08, 2023 at 09:57 AM

DD

“ RIP Marty!! Prayers for the family!! Dale & Teresa Dove



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Dale & Teresa Dove - August 08, 2023 at 09:32 AM

TB

“ Tammy Bass lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



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Tammy Bass - August 08, 2023 at 09:20 AM

TL

“ Taylor Hosford Racing/Annett Bus Lines purchased the *Your Light Shines for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr.*



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**Taylor Hosford Racing/Annett Bus Lines** - August 08, 2023 at 09:18 AM

TL

“ Taylor Hosford Racing/Annett Bus Lines planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..

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**Taylor Hosford Racing/Annett Bus Lines** - August 08, 2023 at 09:18 AM

BT

“ Brandon Thompson lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



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**Brandon Thompson** - August 08, 2023 at 08:53 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray* was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..



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August 08, 2023 at 08:44 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..

August 08, 2023 at 08:44 AM



“ Kevin King lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Kevin King - August 08, 2023 at 08:23 AM



“ Len, and Travis King lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Len, Kevin and Travis King - August 08, 2023 at 08:22 AM



“ Brenda and family the Presnell family wants you to know how heartbreaking it is to hear of Marty's passing. I know you were all so proud of the man he was and his accomplishments in life. May God bless and carry you through this difficult time you are going through. What a blessing to leave here doing what you love. If we could all be that fortunate. Know that we love you all and you are in our prayers. Becky

Becky Coggins - August 08, 2023 at 08:10 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



August 08, 2023 at 07:54 AM



“ *Brenda,Gina,Jacob,Lynwood and Linda, mom and I just want to let you know that you all are in our prayers and thoughts. Marty is going to be missed dearly. He was doing something he absolutely loved. I pray that God will comfort you during this difficult time. We love ya'll very much and we are here for you.*



**NancyLooper** - August 08, 2023 at 05:22 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss prayers for the family*

**sandy** - August 08, 2023 at 02:23 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



August 08, 2023 at 12:22 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



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August 07, 2023 at 11:48 PM



“ *Brenda Bass lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Brenda Bass** - August 07, 2023 at 11:10 PM



“ *I knew Marty from school and River Side. He was always happy and smiling. He will deeply be missed. RIP*



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**Brenda Bass Stewart** - August 07, 2023 at 11:09 PM



“ *Brenda Bridges lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Brenda Bridges** - August 07, 2023 at 10:29 PM

KM

“ *Karen McGee lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Karen McGee** - August 07, 2023 at 10:13 PM

DE

“ *Love and prayers*

*Debrah Vance Tran*

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**Debrah4497@gmail.com** - August 07, 2023 at 10:04 PM

JA

“ *judy alford lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**judy alford** - August 07, 2023 at 09:48 PM

GF

“ *Galloway Family lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



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**Galloway Family** - August 07, 2023 at 09:26 PM

GF

“ Galloway Family lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



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**Galloway Family** - August 07, 2023 at 09:24 PM

DB

“ We raced with Marty and his Dad and they let's us stay with them when we were racing at Greenville Pickins. Great people. Clay Brown Racing  
From Drew Brown

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**Drew Brown** - August 07, 2023 at 08:35 PM

RM

“ I met Marty in 1998 when I was working with the ProCup Series. We became friends through his work on some of our equipment and of course at the races. We went seperate ways but whenever we were at the same track, he was the one i pulled for. Absolutely one of the finest people I have ever met. God Speed my friend!

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**Randy Myers** - August 07, 2023 at 08:16 PM

DR

“ To the family, I'm so heartbroken to hear the news of Marty's passing. I have had the privilege and pleasure to race with and against Marty as a pit crew man. At GSP and AMS Marty in my category as listed as a legend of both tracks, he will be sorely missed by many and all the new him. Rest in peace, my brother we will all see you soon.

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**Drue** - August 07, 2023 at 08:12 PM

JC

“ *Brenda, my prayers are with you. I am so so sorry for your loss.* ”



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**Janet Chandler** - August 07, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr.. ”

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August 07, 2023 at 06:39 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose* was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr.. ”



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August 07, 2023 at 06:39 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr.. ”



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August 07, 2023 at 06:29 PM

JG

“ Janet Gravely lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Janet Buchanan Gravely - August 07, 2023 at 06:21 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..



August 07, 2023 at 06:11 PM

HB

“ praying for the ward family he was so nice to me when I got to meet him when I was a kid at gps at a driver meet and greet he will be missed



heather david burton - August 07, 2023 at 06:00 PM

LR

“ Lisa Reece lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



Lisa Reece - August 07, 2023 at 05:54 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



August 07, 2023 at 05:53 PM



“ *Trick Lister lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward*



**Trick Lister** - August 07, 2023 at 05:47 PM



“ *Bob & Linda Mangum purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



**Bob & Linda Mangum** - August 07, 2023 at 05:39 PM



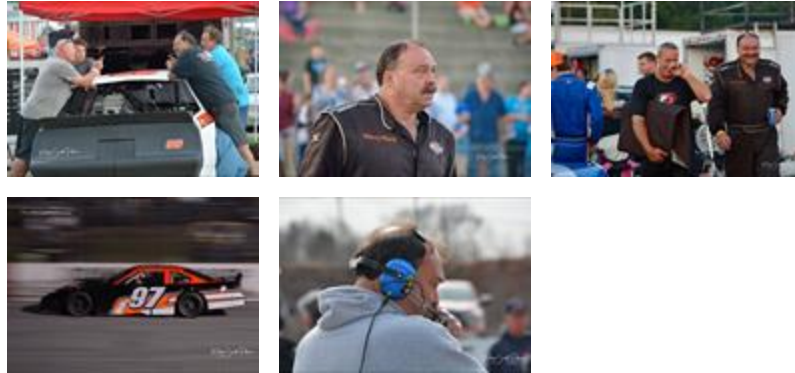
“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Maurice Austin "Marty" Ward Jr..*



August 07, 2023 at 05:05 PM

KS

“ 54 files added to the album Marty Ward GPS



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**Kristina Smith** - August 07, 2023 at 04:54 PM

BM

“ Barbara Medlin lit a candle in memory of Maurice Austin Ward



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**Barbara Medlin** - August 07, 2023 at 04:52 PM