



William Neal Batson

November 5, 1950 - August 16, 2024

William “Neal” Batson, 73, of Landrum passed away Friday, August 16, 2024 after a long and courageous battle with cancer with his family by his side. Born in Washington, DC, he was the eldest son of the late William “Ralph” and Margaret Ward Batson.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Sallie Batson. Three daughters: Jessica Rainey (Josh), Margaret Hullett (Thomas), and Sarah Rives Biscotto (Joey); two stepdaughters that he loved as his own: Crystal Stine and Shalon Craine (Kenny); one granddaughter that he raised and loved as a daughter: Olivia Johnson (Taylor); seventeen grandchildren and one great grandchild. He is also survived by two brothers: David Batson (Jehalia) and Danny Batson (Cindy); and one sister: Tanya Batson.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by one brother, Gary Batson; and grandparents W.A. and Flora Batson and Tolvin and Susie Ward.

Unquestionably Neal's favorite thing to do was to spend time with his grandchildren. With 19 grands/great grands, he was able to enjoy time with them often and made many wonderful memories with them. He was a devoted husband and father and loved his family fiercely. Other than his family, one of Neal's greatest ministries has been his store, Bargains Food Store. Over the many years he worked in the grocery business his colleagues and employees have become more like family and those relationships held a special place in his heart. Most days through the week you could find him working at the store even up until the very end of his valiant fight with cancer. He was the

strongest and hardest working man we've ever known, but he always had time to talk, listen and make you feel cared for and special, especially if you were lucky enough to earn a nickname. Quiet and reserved, steadfast and strong, always freely giving of himself, his time and resources without expectations for it to be returned.

Neal was a loyal member of Ebenezer Welcome Baptist Church in Landrum. He faithfully attended the Senior Men's Sunday school class, helped with the preschool class and AWANAs on Sunday evenings and was actively involved with the Men at the Barn ministry. He lived his life with intentionality and purpose and loved to share the Gospel and tell of the love of Christ. His years of service in the grocery business afforded him the ability to bless many people locally through his continuous contributions to several upstate food banks and nonprofits.

We prayed for a miracle for many years and even though this isn't the miracle we wanted, we rest on knowing that Neal has received the ultimate miracle of healing through our Savior Jesus Christ.

The family will receive friends Tuesday, August 20th, from 12:30-2pm at Ebenezer Welcome Baptist Church. Funeral services will be 2:00pm at Ebenezer Baptist Church with burial to follow at the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Ebenezer Welcome Baptist Church, 4005 SC-414, Landrum, SC 29356.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness for the care that Neal has received from Dr Joe Stephenson and his team at the Greenville Cancer Institute over the past several years, as well as VIA Health Partners for the loving care they have shown him over the past few months. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.thehowzemortuary.com The Howze Mortuary, Travelers Rest, is in charge of arrangements. (864)834-8051

Cemetery Details

Ebenezer Welcome Baptist Church Cemtery

4005 N. Hwy 414
Landrum, SC 29356

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **20**. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Ebenezer Welcome Baptist Church
4005 SC- 414
Landrum, SC 29356

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Worked with Neal, Danny, Gary, David and Tanya when it was called W.A. Batson’s Grocery and later Big Buy Grocery. Knew Granny Batson and Mrs. Viola as well. All were and still are family to me. I was called many names, ‘greenhorn’, clock-watcher, ‘Jeffrow’, etc. Lots and lots of fond memories that are still with me well over forty years later. Too many to share but let me say just one thing, Neal was someone that made a huge positive impression on me; taught me to be fearless and to work hard and care for others no matter what. It saddens me to know he’s not with us for now but happy we will see him again. Prayers and love to the entire family.

Jeffrey Martin - January 14, 2025 at 06:47 PM



“ We just found out about his passing. So sorry for your loss, we will be praying for the family. We love the Bargain's family. From Jennie and Lisa Standridge- in the processing department. Mrs. J.



Lisa Lu - August 21, 2024 at 03:02 PM

TL

“ My name is Tina Lord I worked at bargains stuck in the cereal aisle Mr Neil used to kid with me all the time he was a good man he always called me nobby knees because I'd wear shorts in winter time he always said I was a good worker but the shelves had to be completely completely completely full or it was unsatisfied haha he was a trip my thoughts and prayers are with his family Neil may God bless you and say hey to Mama when you get there you will meet my mother and my family your coworker Tina Lord



Tina Lord - August 20, 2024 at 12:52 PM

EB

“ So sorry for your loss. I can still remember going to the grocery store with my mom. God rest his soul.

Elizabeth Fay Bayne - August 19, 2024 at 07:05 PM

BF

“ Bob Palmer, & Natural Choice Foods planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Neal Batson.

Bob Palmer, & Natural Choice Foods - August 19, 2024 at 03:20 PM

BF

“ Bob Palmer, & Natural Choice Foods purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of William Neal Batson.



Bob Palmer, & Natural Choice Foods - August 19, 2024 at 03:20 PM

MM

“ I went to high school with him.He was a God sent angel here .He has bested a .lot of people.He is with family and Jesus I will be praying for the family.Marie Cross McDowell
/

Marie Cross McDowell - August 19, 2024 at 03:05 PM

RS

“ RN sisters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Neal Batson.

RN sisters - August 19, 2024 at 02:09 PM

RS

“ RN sisters purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of William Neal Batson.



RN sisters - August 19, 2024 at 02:09 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Neal Batson.



August 19, 2024 at 01:57 PM

MP

“ *Milliken Enterprise Plant planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Neal Batson.*

Milliken Enterprise Plant - August 19, 2024 at 01:57 PM

GM

“ *Greenville Meats purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of William Neal Batson.*



Greenville Meats - August 19, 2024 at 01:47 PM

SF

“ *Sam Thomas & Thomas Brothers Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William Neal Batson.*



Sam Thomas & Thomas Brothers Family - August 19, 2024 at 01:10 PM

DF

“ *D&H Marketing Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Neal Batson.*

D&H Marketing Family - August 19, 2024 at 11:30 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Neal Batson.*



August 19, 2024 at 11:30 AM



“ *The Reynolds Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of William Neal Batson.*



The Reynolds Family - August 19, 2024 at 10:07 AM



“ *The Reynolds Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Neal Batson.*

The Reynolds Family - August 19, 2024 at 10:07 AM



“ *Douglas & Sydney Owens purchased the Love's Journey for the family of William Neal Batson.*



Douglas & Sydney Owens - August 19, 2024 at 09:01 AM

RR

“ I first met Neal in 1980 while he was working at the Produce Market in Travelers Rest, SC. He and Danny later opened a couple of grocery store locations, and they continued to grow. I know that when Neal opened Bargain Foods you could tell that it was his new home as well and you could see his love for his employees. Neal Batson was a Great Friend to me for many years as well as a mentor, and he will be sadly missed. To his Family, I would like to let each of you know that We will be Praying for All of You and asking that God hold each of you in his loving hands during this difficult time. I know that Neal is looking down at each of us with that genuine smile that he had. With Deepest Sympathy. Ronnie Rudd

Ronnie Rudd - August 19, 2024 at 08:45 AM

WC

“ Rest in peace Neil.
Walt

Walt Chandler - August 18, 2024 at 12:24 PM

JG

“ Praying 🙏 for the family.



John & Linda Galloway - August 18, 2024 at 03:02 AM

TM

“ Dear all Family and Friends of Neal Batson, we are praying for you all as William Neal Batson's home going has brought sadness to our hearts. He touched so many lives in his daily walk as husband, father, son, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and friend. Neal always had a smile for everyone and loved God, his church family, his family and his friends.

Many neighbors will miss him at Ebenezer Welcome Baptist Church and at his Store in Pelzer, SC, Bargain Foods. Our community will never be the same without Neal Batson.

There are not enough words to express how much Neal is loved. Today, he is with Jesus, walking on Streets of Gold, and in a New, Perfect Body.

Neal is a fine, exemplary man, husband, father, son, brother, uncle, grandfather, great grandfather, cousin and friend. He always had such a warm smile and loved everyone. He was always concerned with other people and the Community.

There are not enough words to convey how much He meant to his family and his friends. I am saying extra prayers for you. Neal always had a positive outlook on life.

May God provide your each and every need including grace, peace, comfort, love and discernment. I cherish all of the memories of him, especially his smile.

Thank God that, those of us who are Christians, will reunite with Neal n Heaven.

If there is someone, either a Friend, Family Member or someone else, who is not saved, may this be the time that this person will repent of their sins and accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Remember the special times and memories shared with Neal. You

are all in our thoughts and prayers. Thank God we will reunite with him in Heaven.

*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 - August 18, 2024 at 01:03 AM

SR

“ *known brother Neal over 49 years working on his equipment loved brother Neal and lulu wijj all my heart will be greatly missed but heaven sure is beautiful*

sammy ragsdale - August 17, 2024 at 09:29 PM

RC

“ *Ray & Ericka Calhoun planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Neal Batson.*

Ray & Ericka Calhoun - August 17, 2024 at 09:19 PM

RC

“ *Ray & Ericka Calhoun purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of William Neal Batson.*



Ray & Ericka Calhoun - August 17, 2024 at 09:19 PM

JB

“ I worked for Neal for many years. He taught me a lot about hard work and work ethic from age 15-21. He entrusted me with his business from opening to closing the store to counting registers and signing checks. I felt very proud to work directly under him. I will be unable to attend his services due to my current career however, my thoughts and prayers are with his family, current and past coworkers, during this time of transitioning.
Jared Burns

Jared Burns - August 17, 2024 at 07:48 PM

JF

“ jeannie ferguson lit a candle in memory of William Batson



jeannie ferguson - August 17, 2024 at 07:13 PM

JA

“ My prayers are with the family.
Judy Brown Alford



judy B Alford - August 17, 2024 at 06:36 PM

RG

“ I often saw Mr. Batson working in his store in Pelzer. He was always kind and friendly. His store is a blessing to the people of our area as my hometown of Williamston lost its only grocery store many years ago. May God bless and comfort all of his family and friends.

Ruby King Gerisch - August 17, 2024 at 06:05 PM

RC

“ We are greatly saddened to hear of your loss . Neal was no doubt a huge loss to his community and to all those who had jobs because of his dedication and love of what he did. Know that you are in our prayers now and the days to come. May God Bless and comfort you all. Ronnie Rollins and Becky



Rebecca Coggins - August 17, 2024 at 05:51 PM

MM

“ I remember one day working I felt like everything was falling apart an I saw Neal an he asked me if I'd accepted Christ I told him yes sir he said well all that negative is just the Satan trying to get you!! It's hard to believe that Neal has gone to be with his Savior but I know that I'll be there someday too !! I'll keep everyone in my thoughts and prayers 🙏✝️✝️🙏

Matthew Morris - August 17, 2024 at 05:50 PM

DR

“ Our family (Roy Reynolds) is greatly saddened to hear of Neal's passing. From childhood through all the stages of life the Batson and Reynolds kids were great friends, workmates, and supporters of each other. I know Roy is glad to have his friend and mentor join him at Jesus's feet. Sending prayers to all Neal's family and to David, Danny, and Tanya's families.

Deborah Reynolds - August 17, 2024 at 03:33 PM

JG

“ John & Linda Galloway lit a candle in memory of William Batson



John & Linda Galloway - August 17, 2024 at 01:13 PM

"H

“ "Country" Hawkins lit a candle in memory of William Batson



"Country" Hawkins - August 17, 2024 at 12:37 PM

DH

My husband, Bill Huff admired and respected his work ethics. Bill passed on August 20. I know they will be talking about the grocery business. He was such a nice man.

Sorry for your loss and I know how our hearts ache, Mrs. Batson and the Batson family. I send my deepest sympathy.

Dorothy Huff - August 24, 2024 at 10:26 PM