



Billy Kennedy

April 15, 1938 - May 28, 2023

Billy Claude Kennedy, 85, of Crystal Springs, MS, passed away Sunday, May 28, 2023. Visitation will be Friday, June 2nd from 12 pm until 2 pm with the service to follow at 2pm at First Baptist Church of Crystal Springs. Burial will be immediately after at Crystal Springs City Cemetery. Stringer Family Funeral Home in Crystal Springs is handling arrangements.

Mr. Kennedy lived in Crystal Springs for the past 27 years. He was an active member of First Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon and was on many different committees.

He was also known in Crystal Springs for his love of running. He spent countless hours running the streets but always took the time to stop for a smile, a wave, or a quick hello.

Prior to moving to Crystal Springs, Mr. Kennedy worked many decades for the Jackson Public Schools system. The majority of his years were spent at Wingfield High School. There he was a class sponsor and enjoyed working with students with the Falcon Follies.

Mr. Kennedy was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Ann Thompson Kennedy. Survivors include son David Kennedy of Pearl, MS; daughter, Karla

Jarvenpaa (Harri) of Roswell, GA; and grandson Kristoffer Jarvenpaa of Roswell, GA.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Mississippi's Toughest Kids in Crystal Springs, MS.

Cemetery Details

Crystal Springs Cemetery

Crystal Springs Cemetery
Crystal Springs, MS 39059

Tribute Wall

DG

“ *Billy Kennedy is my husband, Andy Gandy's uncle..Sndy's Mom is Pattie Kenndy Gandy Bonifay, Billy's sister..My best memory of Uncle Bill is a family square dance, costumes and all, at their house in their yard..Awesome fun..Uncle Bill had such a bright mind and was such a pleasure to have known.*

Donna Dukes Gandy - June 03, 2023 at 03:22 PM

LM

“ *Our having the pleasure of knowing Billy and Ann goes back many years. I have several special memories. When David came home from the hospital, my mother would walk up the street to join his grandmother rocking him and playing with him. How they enjoyed that! Years later my mother would call Billy and Ann to see if she could treat them at the Fish House. They'd pick her up, have a nice meal, visit, and they insisted on treating her!*

They were a wonderful team and special family friends.

Linda Taylor Milner - June 02, 2023 at 11:06 AM

GN

“ *Mr. Kennedy was one of my favorite teachers at Wingfield. He was also a class sponsor during Follies. One of the few teachers that I had the upmost respect for, I would never lie to him, and tried to never put him in a bind with my behavior. Rest well Sir. You have touched many lives and this one for sure.*

Glen Nalley - June 01, 2023 at 10:16 PM

TJ

“ I met Mr. Kennedy when I was a first-year teacher at Murrah High School. I was a “Floating” teacher (no designated room) and used his room during the 7th period. We would have great conversations! He was a very wise man! He loved to run! He and my former football coach, Willie Heidelberg, would run for miles EVERYDAY after school! Mr. Kennedy prided himself on winning 5K races! I kept up with him in the Clarion Ledger. He won A BUNCH of races! I’m sure he and Coach Heidelberg are running as I write! 😂

Torrie Jackson - May 31, 2023 at 11:03 PM

KN

“ He was fondly known as “STRETCH” to his students in the ‘70s... And at Alta Woods Baptist Church he was friends to many... So love and prayers from myself and my mom... Kay Dyess Newell, Wingfield Class of ‘78 Shirley Dyess

(Notice where his right foot is while standing at the podium)



Kay Dyess Newell - May 31, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Billy Kennedy.



May 30, 2023 at 09:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Billy Kennedy.*



May 30, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to Billy's family. I have many fond memories of Billy from when our families were living in south Jackson. Billy and I ran just about every street in south Jackson from Hwy. 80 to Cooper Road. Billy was a true gentleman and friend. He will be greatly missed. RIP, Billy!*

Denny Blaylock

Denny Blaylock - May 30, 2023 at 04:57 PM



“ *I worked in JPS with BILLY for years at Callaway High School and later at Murrah High School. HE IS A TRUE FRIEND AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR. He was so kind and cared for students and the faculty alike. I will miss him. A small group of MHS faculty met for lunch once a month. He loved to RUN and was great at it and ran after school with coach Willie Heidleburg . GOD BLESS ALL family and friend. Bill Lea*

BILL LEA - May 30, 2023 at 10:42 AM

JK

“ Billy Kennedy provided us a superb example of a Christian gentleman and a good American citizen. For many years he was a faithful member of the men’s Sunday School class I am privileged to teach. He loved Ann and their children without reservation. His grandson gave him boundless joy. He was always pleasant and maintained a positive, happy attitude. What a blessing it has been to have Billy Kennedy as a friend!

Jim Kitchens - May 30, 2023 at 09:39 AM

JA

*My friend Billy and I started out on our life’s journey when our parents became friends at Shady Grove in Hazlehurst! We went to church together and finished high school together—
I talked with him back around first of year and he and I wanted the 4-5 left in our class to have lunch one day- but I never heard back from him!!!
He was good man and I loved him and Ann— will miss him for sure-
Class of 1956-
Hazlehurst High Indians
Juanita Sutton Ashley*

juanita Sutton Ashley - May 30, 2023 at 11:15 AM