



## John C. Sojourner, Jr.,

December 18, 1950 - August 6, 2013

John C. Sojourner, Jr., 62, passed away at his home early in the morning on August 6, 2013. Visitation is scheduled for 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on August 7th at Harmony Baptist Church in Crystal Springs. The funeral will take place at Harmony Baptist Church on August 8th at 2:00 p.m. A Stringer Family Funeral Services in Crystal Springs is handling arrangements. Johnny was born on December 18, 1950 and was raised on a farm in Crystal Springs. He graduated from Crystal Springs High School, earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and graduated from the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy. While at USM, Johnny married Anne Benke of Jackson. Their first child, Shannon, was born in Athens, Georgia while Johnny was pursuing his pharmacy degree. Upon graduation from the University of Georgia, the family moved home to Mississippi. A couple of years later, the family welcomed its second daughter, Amy. Five years later, the family was pleasantly 'surprised' with a third daughter, Anna. Johnny was the sole proprietor of both City Drugs and Krystal Gravel in Crystal Springs, which he operated continuously since 1981. Although he is known by many as a successful businessman, he will be most remembered for his passion and love for Jesus. Johnny was a strong supporter and contributor to many churches and missionaries and his positive influence is far reaching. Johnny enjoyed teaching, whether it be a Sunday School class, Master Life, showing a young person how to transact business deals, or teaching someone how to operate a tractor. He was a member of Crossgates

Baptist Church in Brandon and served as a deacon (once as Chairman), greeter, and teacher. Johnny was preceded in death by his parents, John Clemon 'BoBo' Sojourner and Ruth 'Ging Ging' Sojourner. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Anne Benke Sojourner. Other survivors include his daughter, Shannon Elliott of Flowood (husband A€“John and children A€“Trey and Hayes); his daughter Amy Eversole of Madison (husband A€“Craig and children A€“Will and Anna Grace); his daughter, Anna Graves of Flowood (husband A€“Wayne and child on the way A€“Lily). Also, he is survived by his younger brother, Wayne of Crystal Springs (wife A€“Suzie and children A€“Ben, Matt, and Michael). In lieu of flowers, please send donations to We Will Go Ministries, 799 North Congress Street, Jackson, MS 39202.,

# Tribute Wall



“ *John C. Sojourner, Jr.,*

January 28, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *We would like so express our deepest sympathies to the family of Johnny Sojourner. He has touched the lives of so many with warm smile and loving heart. He love the Lord and was not afraid to share Him with others. I never saw Johnny that he wasn't lifting someone up. He always looked for the good in others and never made you feel as if he were better than you. I never heard him ever say anything negative but would use the moment to have you realize it could be handle in a positive way. Now he is walking and talking with Jesus. I know his smile is even brighter now. We will miss him. Steve and Sherlene Sullivan,*

Sherlene Sullivan - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *so sorry to be hearing this. my condolence to the all the family . will be keeping all of you in our prayers,*

florria broocks - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry for you families loss, prayers going out to you all. He will be missed by so many, God Bless you all.,*

Carol Strong Mundine - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ *Shannon, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
May God's comforting grace and presence be very real to you all.,*

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**Mike and Anita Davis** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *ours prays or with you during this time of loss,*

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**Lynda Cooley James Family** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Our deepest condolences to this wonderful family who we have known for over 20 years. May the Lord wrap you in His loving arms and hold you tight during your hour of need. Heavens gain is certainly our loss. Some of my most memorable christian service was with this amazing man of God and the time he invested in me as a young Christian will forever be remembered. The following is an excerpt from my book, *Reflections: My Personal Journey* by Jerry L. Pitts Jr. p. 11 John Sojourner, is a wonderful man of God who took me under his wing when I was a young Christian and taught me how to love and honor God. I have always admired him greatly and feel so extremely blessed that God placed him in my life. His friendship is something I will always treasure. John and I spent many evenings riding around Copleah County sharing the love of Christ. I learned so much from this man, as he was an amazing teacher of God's Word. I took Master Life 1 and 2 under him, then followed that up as his assistant teacher as we went through these courses with another class. What amazing growing experiences those were. Later on he humbled himself and allowed me to teach *Experiencing God and Living Proof Evangelism*, encouraging me every step of the way. I could never come close to being the teacher he was, I mean he was larger than life, and people just loved being in his presence, especially me. I don't think I ever saw him when he was not encouraging me; he ALWAYS had something positive to say, and it just made everyone want to be near him. Goodbye, my dear friend and thank you for believing in me. You had a unique ability to see the good in people and didn't just tell us, but showed us by your witness, the meaning of Luke 10:27, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" You, my friend mastered these great commands of Jesus and I am sure He was so proud to welcome you home. I can just picture it as you heard, those words every Saint longs to hear, "ΓÇÿWell done, good and faithful servant!" (Matthew 25:21),

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Jerry Janice and Jessica Pitts - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Mr. John had a special ability in smoothing out the bumps in the road. His hunger to make a deal was inspiring and his quest to talk about his faith was encouraging. He could always make me smile. It was a privilege knowing him, God rest his soul.,

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**John Meadows** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ID

“ May God bless and keep you doing this bereavement time. Keeping you and your family in my prayers.,

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**Ida Dixon** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Johnny touched so many lives and influenced so many people. What a legacy he leaves. May God's peace go with family and friends. He will not be forgotten.,

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**Ken Hollingsworth** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Johnny touched so many lives and influenced so many people. His legacy will live on. May God's peace go with with family and friends. He will not be forgotten.,

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**Ken Hollingsworth** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Johnny could always make our days brighter when we would see him around town. He seemed to be so genuinely glad to see Raiford and me. Once we were in Jackson at a restaurant and he came over to our table and spoke. Raiford said as he left..."Now there goes a fine man." All of Crystal Springs will miss hi,

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**Edna Earle and Raiford Crews** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ John ran the good race for Christ. He was a friend and inspiration to us all at CBC and we will miss him greatly. He was always serving others with his various ministries. John was an uninhibited worshipper and you always knew where he was in the worship service by his praising and Amen'ing. You knew he had arrived at Church on Sunday when you saw him drive up in that yellow school bus filled with underprivileged kids from Crystal Springs.,

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**Stuart Sanders** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ In private visits with him, he was as he appeared in public, a gentleman with a gracious soul.,

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**Marc S. Roy** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Mr. Sojourner was such a kind person. My daughter mentioned him on several occasions telling me that when she would go in the store with the children, he would always talk with them and give them a "happy" bringing a smile to their face. He was truly a man that showed his love for Jesus in doing for others. Our prayers are with you during this time.,

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**Donna Carr** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM