



Robert Michael Crawford

December 11, 1936 - February 15, 2020

Honorable Robert Michael Crawford age 83 of Greenbrier died Saturday, February 15, 2020 at his home. Funeral services will be conducted at 1:00pm. Wednesday, February 19th at Greenbrier First Baptist Church with Brother Nathan Washburn officiating. Burial will follow in the Greenbrier Cemetery. Visitation with the family will be held at the Greenbrier First Baptist Church on Tuesday, from 3:00 - 8:00pm and again on Wednesday, from 10:00am until the hour of service at 1:00pm.

Michael was born on December 11, 1936 to the late Robert E. and Evelyn Reeder Crawford at his home in Greenbrier. He held the position of Robertson County Judge from 1974 until 1982. Both he and his wife, Linda were members of Greenbrier First Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Linda Evilcizer Crawford of Greenbrier; son, Michael Andrew Crawford of Greenbrier; daughter, Judith Gail Crawford Meyer and husband, Dave; sister, Judith Crawford Clifton and husband James A. of Springfield; grandchildren, Izabella Marie Crawford, Kadyne E. Crawford, Sydney Gail Meyer, Julia Mae Meyer, Luke Richard Meyer, and Lyla Marie Meyer.

Donations made in lieu of flowers can be made to Shriners Hospital for Children, St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital, or First Baptist Church Greenbrier.

Pall Bearers include Cris Clifton, Steven Clifton, Jim Duncan Williams, Sonny Jones, Jimmy Allen, Larry Evilcizer, Steve Sorrells, and Joe Donald King.

Honorary Pall Bearers include Billy Bottoms, Bob Brothers, Billy Ballard, Billy Munday, Dr. Charles Mayes, Roy Apple, Jeff Walker, Larry Simmons, Members of his Sunday School Class, Deacons of First Baptist Church Greenbrier, and the GHS Class of 1954.

Mr. Crawford attended Greenbrier schools and graduated from Greenbrier High School in 1954. He earned a Bachelor of Science from Tennessee Tech University in 1958. He served as manager to the mens basketball team and was part of the 1958 NCAA Tournament with the team.

He started his career at the TN State Comptrollers Office as an auditor. In that position, he traveled across the state from Mountain City to Memphis working in 70+ counties. His auditing days found him in a courtroom which sparked his interest in law. He attended law school at night while working and earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Nashville YMCA Night Law School in 1972. In 1974, he left the State where he had worked his way to the Director of Local Finance to start a new career adventure.

In 1974, Mr. Crawford was elected Robertson County Judge and served until 1982. He had several notable accomplishments including establishing new purchasing procedures requiring the taking of bids and the investing of idle county funds. These changes resulted in increased revenue for the county. He presided over county commission meetings as part of his duties. Due to state legislature changes to the job title and duties, Mr. Crawford was the last person to serve as County Judge. The position was renamed to County Executive and then renamed in 2006 to County Mayor.

Mr. Crawford served as a county commissioner where he represented his city and county for many years until 2010. He served on several committees including the Finance and Investment and Budget committees. Mr. Crawford was known for his support of the school system. He served as the City Attorney for Greenbrier and was a key contributor to Greenbriers Fourth of July Picnic tradition for many years.

Once his term as County Judge ended, Mr. Crawford did not go far. In 1982, he started his private law practice across the street from the court house. He represented countless individuals over the years in domestic, civil, and criminal cases. He performed many marriage ceremonies over the years. Mr. Crawford found great joy in helping people through his forty plus years law career. He was respected by his peers and colleagues for his professionalism, intellect, and dedication.

Mr. Crawford was a dedicated husband to Linda. They met at the Springfield Bowling Alley and were married on April 12, 1963. They were always together and enjoyed many outings. It was common to see them enjoying breakfast at Larrys. They are life-long residents of Greenbrier where they raised their daughter, Judith Gail, and son, Michael Andrew. Some of their memorable vacations included multiple visits to Daytona Beach; a trip out west to visit the Badlands, Yellowstone National Park, and Mount Rushmore; Hawaii; and Germany. Mr. Crawford was an avid sports fan. He was a Nashville Sounds season ticket holder, attended many TTU homecomings and TTU vs MTSU games, and was recognized by Greenbrier Athletic Association as a "GHS Football Loyal Fan". He was known as "Papa" to his grandchildren, Izabella, Kadyn, Sydney, Julia, Luke, and Lyla and loved them dearly.

Mr. Crawford was a faithful servant. He was an active member of Greenbrier First Baptist Church for his entire life. He served as deacon for many years

and was recognized as Deacon Emeritus in 2016. His backseat pew will leave a huge void. His Christian faith guided him throughout everything he did during his life.

Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Greenbrier is in charge of these arrangements.

AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME-

2619 HIGHWAY 41 SOUTH, GREENBRIER, TN 37073 (615) 643-4000

Cemetery

Greenbrier Cemetery

Greenbrier Cemetery Rd

Greenbrier TN 37073

US

Visitation

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

3:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Greenbrier First Baptist Church

Hwy 41 South

Greenbrier TN 37073

US

Visitation

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Greenbrier First Baptist Church
Hwy 41 South
Greenbrier TN 37073
US

Funeral Service
Wednesday, February 19, 2020
1:00 PM -
Greenbrier First Baptist Church
Hwy 41 South
Greenbrier TN 37073
US

Funeral Home Austin & Bell Funeral Home Greenbrier
2619 Hwy 41 S
Greenbrier TN - 37073
US
615-643-4000
615-643-4004

Tribute Wall

AH

“ *Robert Michael Crawford*

Austin and Bell Funeral Home - August 14, 2020 at 07:46 PM

DW

“ *Judge Crawford was a special man in my life. I was on my way to a bad life and he saw something in me that I couldn't see. He helped me get into the Air Force where I served 20 years. I now work at a Christian University in Arkansas. I just hope I made you proud! You are a very special man to me. Dale Warren Cabot, AR*

Dale Warren - March 25, 2020 at 04:29 PM

AH

“ *79 files added to the album Life Tributes*

Austin & Bell Funeral Home - February 18, 2020 at 01:30 PM

GU

“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Robert Michael Crawford.*

Guest - February 18, 2020 at 12:40 AM

BJ

“ *He will always have place in my heart for everything he has done for me over the years Michael was a good man and he touched the lives of many people in our community and he will be sadly missed*

Barbara Jones - February 18, 2020 at 12:21 AM

CC

“ *That's Uncle Mike, middle row on the left. Back in the day...*

Cris Clifton - February 17, 2020 at 08:44 PM

CC

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*

Cris Clifton - February 17, 2020 at 08:42 PM

TT

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Robert Michael Crawford*

Terry tanner - February 17, 2020 at 07:46 PM

CG

“ *Linda, Sorry to hear about Michael, but I am sure he is free of all his burdens. He and Judith and Mrs. Evelyn were our first friends we me and have been all these years along with you. I appreciate all of you. I will have you and the family in my thoughts and prayers. You are strong and will make it through the days ahead. God bless all of you and give you peace. Love, Claudia*

Claudia Allen Gamble - February 17, 2020 at 05:06 PM

GU

“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Robert Michael Crawford.*

Guest - February 17, 2020 at 02:14 PM

LH

“ There is no one in Greenbrier it seems who didn't know Mike Crawford. I knew him as one of my older brother's favorite Sunday School teachers and all through growing up at First Baptist. I really got to know him when I kept minutes for the Board meetings at the city hall. I didn't have a clue what I was doing and he wanted a professional record of each meeting. He came to my house and helped me so much. He was a humble, godly man with a unique personality. I needed him again when my mother's cousin died and her original will could not be found. He made sure everything turned out legally and as it should. He even found time to come by and talk to her personally during this time. You will be missed and I hope one of the first people you see is my brother Steve. Linda Huff

Linda Huff - February 17, 2020 at 01:01 PM

GU

“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert Michael Crawford.

Guest - February 17, 2020 at 09:50 AM

MP

“ My prayers are with the whole family. Mike was a valued member of our church and our community. We know he is in a better place, but he will be missed by all of us who are still here.

Mary Ann Partain - February 16, 2020 at 11:34 PM

PS

“ We have known Mike all our life. Went to same school and he was manager of basketball team which I played and he was always there when we needed him. Also, I attended Greenbrier Baptist with him until I married James. We will always remember him as a great person. Remembering the family at this time and knowing that God will comfort you. With Love, James and Patsy Scott

patsy scott - February 16, 2020 at 09:29 PM

GU

“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Michael Crawford.

Guest - February 16, 2020 at 07:16 PM