



## Grady L. "Benny" Ratliff

March 5, 2015

Grady Lester "Benny" Ratliff age 71, of LaFayette, GA passed away Thursday, March 5, 2015.

He was born in Birmingham, AL, had resided in the north Chattanooga area and in LaFayette for the past ten years. He enjoyed riding Harley-Davidson motorcycles with The Outlaws, Kingsmen, Hell's Angels and The Sideboards. He was of the Church of God faith and was Reverend Chief Wayaunaka of Etowah Cherokee Nation. He had worked for Brown Brothers Construction and The City of Chattanooga as a diesel mechanic and welder, Royal Oake in Ocala, FL, where he was a chief mechanic.

He is preceded in death by his parents: Lester Dean Ratliff, Edith & James R. McCrary.

He is survived by his wife: Beverly Ellen Hall Ratliff, former wife: Louise Ratliff both of LaFayette, his children: Jamie Sue (William) Smith of Chickamauga, GA, Angela (Neal) Posey, Doris "Doddie" (Randy) Thompson all of LaFayette, GA, Jay Barton (Cricket) Griffin of Savannah, GA, Michael Ratliff, Jessica Ray (Brian) Hafely all of Calhoun, TN, Benjamin, Gracie and Gabriel Ratliff all of LaFayette, GA, sister: Delane Stone of Cleveland, TN, twelve grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends Saturday from 12 noon – 8:00 pm and Sunday morning before the services. Funeral services will be held at 3:00 pm - Sunday – March 8, 2015 at the funeral home with Pastor Mike Smith officiating.

Nickolas William Smith his first and loving grandson and granddaughter Ashley Harris Dowden will serve as honorary pallbearers.

Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Homes – LaFayette Chapel.

Online register book at [www.wilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

BW

“ *Benny was one of a kind. So very special. I miss him so.  
???????????*

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**Beverly Ratliff - Lafayette , GA - wife** - March 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ *I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU DADDY!!!! you are the strongest man i  
have always know. I am going to miss you more than anything!!!  
love you  
#2 ANGIE*

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**Angie Ratliff Posey - LaFayette, ID - #2 daughter** - March 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *GRADY WAS MY BEST FRIEND IN GRAMMER SCHOOL AND JR  
HIGH SCHOOL, WE STARTED IN THIRD GRADE TOGETHER AT  
CENTRAL ELEMENTRY, THEN NORTH SIDE, AND G RUSSEL  
BROWN. WISH TO SAY AM SORRY TO HIS WIFE AND  
DAUGHTERS, MOST OF WHO GREW UP WITH MY DAUGHTER  
CHANTA. WILL MISS HIM AND HIS FAMILY. GOD BLESS ALL OF  
YOU CHARLES AND SHIRLEY.*

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**CHARLES MCKEEL - CHATTANOOGA, TN - FRIEND FROM LONG BACK** -  
March 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *I will never forget the day I walked up to Benny in my Dress Blues  
and he was working on his Jeep. He told me he ought to throw me  
in the mud puddle. i told him "Go ahead if you think you can." he  
gave me that smile of his and shook my hand.It was a very proud  
day for me. What he thought of me meant a great deal. He will be  
missed.*

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**Darrell Sutton - Chattanooga, TN - Friend** - March 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM