



## Gregory Neil Ellis

September 18, 1961 - March 21, 2024

Gregory Neil Ellis age 62, of Chickamauga, Georgia passed away Thursday, March 21, 2024 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia and resided his childhood in Chickamauga, where he graduated from Gordon Lee High School – Class of 1980. While at Gordon Lee he was the quarterback for the football team, played basketball, played baseball, where he pitched and help lead the Trojans to be the 1979 State Champs and received the Mack Smith Award. He furthered his education at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga where he earned his Bachelor’s Degree, Eastern Kentucky University where he earned his Master’s Degree and Lincoln Memorial where he earned his Education Specialists Degree. Greg started his teaching and coaching career in 1986 at his Alma Mater - Gordon Lee. In 1988 he taught and coached at South Rossville Middle School. Coach Ellis returned to his Alma Mater at Gordon Lee in 1989 until 1994 where he taught and coached. From July of 1994 until July of 1998, he coached baseball at Lenior City High School. Once again, he returned to Gordon Lee and coached from 1999 until 2006. From 1999 until 2011 he coached football at Signal Mountain where he was part of the coaching staff to lead the Eagles to the State Championship. Again, returning to Gordon Lee, he served as Athletic Director from 2011 until 2015, while coaching football at Baylor High School from 2012 until 2015. Once again, he returned to his Alma Mater as head football coach and lead the Trojans from 2015 until his retirement in 2019. Coach Ellis holds the winningest record in coaching

football at Gordon Lee High School. He was a life time member of the GASA, enjoyed playing golf and was an avid Alabama fan – “Roll Tide Roll.” Greg was a member of Elizabeth Lee Methodist Church and preceded in death by his father: Billy Neil Ellis. He is survived by his wife: Crystal Lynn Mozingo Ellis, their children: Shelby Frances Ellis of Memphis, TN, Madison Riley (fiancé: Malachi Parker) Hughes, Reece (Bethany) Carter Hughes, mother: Jean Marie Oliver Ellis, sister: Sherri Neilia Ellis all of Chickamauga, GA, niece: Kristen Drew (Laura) Williams, nephew: Alex (Austen) Spires great nieces: Poppy Elizabeth Williams and Scottie Ellis Spires. The family will receive friends Sunday – March 24, 2024 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held at 4:00 pm – Sunday – March 24, 2024 in the chapel with Scott Erby and Derrell O’Neal officiating. Burial will follow in Chickamauga Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) or mail to 225 N. Michigan Avenue., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601 and/or Gordon Lee Athletics Association at 105 Lee Circle - Chickamauga, Georgia 30707. Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Homes – Chickamauga Chapel. Online register book at [www.wilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Chickamauga City Cemetery

Lee Ave.  
Chickamauga, GA 30707

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 24.** 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Funeral Homes - Chickamauga Chapel  
215 Lee Ave.  
P.O. Box 370  
Chickamauga, GA 30707  
(706) 375-2161  
[bo@wilsonfuneralhome.com](mailto:bo@wilsonfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

**MAR 24.** 4:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Funeral Homes - Chickamauga Chapel  
215 Lee Ave.  
P.O. Box 370  
Chickamauga, GA 30707  
(706) 375-2161  
[bo@wilsonfuneralhome.com](mailto:bo@wilsonfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

GE

“ I met Greg in 1985 while staying for six months with his aunt's family Linda. He was such a sweet and caring person who cheered me up when being homesick. My deepest sympathy to his mother, sister and his family. Love, Gerti

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**Gerti** - May 02, 2024 at 02:00 PM

MS

“ Had the honor of playing baseball with Greg "Smiley" Ellis during my career when we were both playing for Coach Seabolt in Boynton. We made it to the final game in the World Series that summer, and Greg played a pivotal role in getting us there. He was a super athlete and he was my friend. I regret that we didn't stay in touch after our playing days were over. I was very fortunate and blessed to have known him and his family. Greg was one of the best to ever play, didn't matter which sport you were referring to. My heartfelt condolences go out to his Mother, Sister, and the rest of his family. Sincerely, Mark Stone

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**Mark Stone** - March 24, 2024 at 10:55 AM

CH

“ Coach Ellis was a huge part of my formidable years. This hits hard.

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**Cody Hill** - March 24, 2024 at 08:12 AM

BS

“ Deepest sympathy to all the family. May God's Grace and Mercy be with you all in the coming days.

*James Spradlin  
Bertie Arnold Spradlin*



**Bertie L Spradlin** - March 23, 2024 at 11:00 PM

MT

“ Margaret Disheroon and Robbie Taylor purchased the Sympathy Gift Vintage Wind Chime - "I Have You In My Heart" for the family of Gregory Neil Ellis.



**Margaret Disheroon and Robbie Taylor** - March 23, 2024 at 01:13 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gregory Neil Ellis.



March 23, 2024 at 12:34 PM

BW

“ Benny Ware lit a candle in memory of Gregory Neil Ellis



**Benny Ware** - March 23, 2024 at 07:28 AM

MS

“ Greg coached me in football at Lenoir City. He was an absolute prince among men. He was one of my biggest fans and is a reminder how great coaches appreciate the hard workers along with the athletically gifted. He was just a very special human being. Condolences to his family, but a loss for humanity as well....

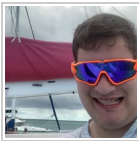
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**Matt Suddath** - March 23, 2024 at 03:45 AM



“ Lynn Slaven lit a candle in memory of Gregory Neil Ellis



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**Lynn Slaven** - March 23, 2024 at 12:16 AM



“ Greg Ellis was my weightlifting coach at SMMHS and always tried to tease me all of the time and he also took turns with William Bill Price to do weight lifting class and economics class and he was always funny to be around and he loved to joke with people like me. Thanks Kindly,  
**DENVER CHANNING DRESSLER**

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**Denver Dressler** - March 22, 2024 at 11:26 PM

LD

Coach Ellis always had time for ALL the kids with ALL abilities, making Denver truly feel like just another kid on those frustrating awkward teenage days of middle and high school. He will truly be missed. — LL (Denver Channing Dressler's mom) 😞

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**laura lea dressler** - March 23, 2024 at 09:54 AM

WM

“ Coach Greg Ellis you were more than a coach or teacher.. you were a friend after highschool school. One of my memories of Coach was one day at football practice in the summer . Temperature was hot. Somebody said something to him and he flipped the water and Gatorade coolers over dump them out. He had a way of chewing you out and giving you a compliment at the same time... I wish I could hear you yell " do it again Owens or Tarvin . " Fly High Greg! "Roll Tide" Big Blue Wrecking Crew!!!! ❤️❤️□□□

William "Beaver" Merritt - March 22, 2024 at 11:18 PM

PF

I am so sad for Greg losing his battle. He was 8 yrs younger than me and I had to babysit him and Sherri growing up. I could tell no many good ole stories but I don't have enough space! Greg was my first cousin but we grew up like brother and sisters. Greg was the golden child in our family he was the only boy for 21 years until Neil was born. I love you Greg always will Prayers for Crystal and her family for taking care of him in his final days.

Pamela Jackson Folger - March 26, 2024 at 02:42 PM

LM

“ Lee & Amy Mashburn purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Gregory Neil Ellis.



Lee & Amy Mashburn - March 22, 2024 at 10:58 PM

LM

“ Lee & Amy Mashburn planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory Neil Ellis.

Lee & Amy Mashburn - March 22, 2024 at 10:58 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gregory Neil Ellis.



March 22, 2024 at 09:42 PM



“ Greg L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory Neil Ellis.

Greg L. - March 22, 2024 at 09:42 PM



“ I'm having a really hard time believing Greg is no longer with us. For me, we spent two of the best years of my life together as baseball teammates and college roommates. He was like a brother to me (you too Clay). Whenever I remember the times we shared I always smile because we really had fun. I'll miss him, and am so sorry that his family is dealing with this loss. Greg Lanigan

greg lanigan - March 22, 2024 at 09:40 PM



“ Sorry to hear about the passing of Coach Ellis. My thoughts and prayers are with the family, friends and many friends he leaves behind. James Helton, Rossville, Ga.



James Helton, Rossville, Ga. - March 22, 2024 at 08:34 PM

BT

“ Sorry to hear of Greg’s passing went to school with him an his sister.



Becky Tucker - March 22, 2024 at 07:00 PM

JD

“ Jacob Deck lit a candle in memory of Gregory Neil Ellis



Jacob Deck - March 22, 2024 at 06:18 PM

CD

“ My condolences to Greg’s wife, kids, family, and friends. I only knew Greg for one yearish back in 1981-82 pitching together at BCC with his buddies Clay and the other Greg, Lannigan. I’ll never forget Greg Ellis and haven’t yet at 61 because we became such good friends so fast and for such a brief flash. Greg was as fair and honest of a man, stellar, I’m sure we’ll all miss him no matter if we knew him a day, year, or lifetime. RIP Bro.

Cliff Denney - March 22, 2024 at 04:27 PM

BB

“ Brandi & Jason Bagley purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Gregory Neil Ellis.



Brandi & Jason Bagley - March 22, 2024 at 03:20 PM

BB

“ *Betty Bowman lit a candle in memory of Gregory Neil Ellis*



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**Betty Bowman** - March 22, 2024 at 03:14 PM

PC

“ *Patty Ceccotti sent a virtual gift in memory of Gregory Neil Ellis*



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**Patty Ceccotti** - March 22, 2024 at 02:45 PM

CC

“ *Cheryl Sisemore Clark lit a candle in memory of Gregory Neil Ellis*



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**Cheryl Sisemore Clark** - March 22, 2024 at 01:37 PM