



## William "Billy" Stephens

October 31, 1972 - September 26, 2024

William "Billy" Lindsay Stephens

"Bill Stephens, I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine!"- Isaiah 43:1.

Bill was born on October 31, 1972, and gained his Heavenly wings on September 26, 2024. He was a lifelong native of Ringgold, Ga.

He is preceded in death by his father, Charles Stephens Sr., grandparents - William and Alef Bearden Stephens and Oscar and Addie Floyd Wrinkle, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Survivors include his loving son, Luke Stephens, forever friend Sandy Stephens, and bonus sons Austin Abercrombie, Tyler (Montana) Abercrombie, and Dakota Hunter.

Other survivors include his mother, Janice Stephens, brother Charles Stephens Jr. (Patti), and sister Barbara Stephens-Spurgeon (James). Special nieces he called "Charlie's Angels" - Taylor Stephens-Robbins (Billy), Casey Stephens (Sidney), Haley Stephens, Heather Smith. Uncles Lindsay, Clyde, cousins Lee, Marco, and Renea, and special great niece Mckenzie—several aunts, uncles, and cousins he loved dearly. Billy cherished all his friendships throughout the years. He loved you all!

Billy was recognized as a professional baseball player whose accomplishments were numerous. Bill Started playing baseball at 8 years old

for Ricky Johnson on the Ringgold Blue in the recreation league. Rick taught him the game he loved. Ricky taught him that hard work and discipline paid off.

He then moved on to American Legion post #95 baseball traveling team out of East Ridge, Tennessee coached by Skip Shook and Charlie White.

Billy played 4 years as a varsity starter at Ringgold High School under head coach Bill Womack as a pitcher and 1st and 3rd baseman. As a member of the Tigers during the 1991 season, the Tigers placed second in the state finals. Billy still holds Top 3 and Top 5 Tiger records for hits, home runs, and pitching. Billy was a talented hitter and as a pitcher owned a unique fastball reaching the high nineties and an unbelievable curveball. Billy's talents led him to be selected in the draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1991. Billy went to play for the Kissimmee Dodgers in the Grapefruit League. He played in the Dodgers organization and was moved to the Fort Myers Mighty Mussels. He finished his career with seasons playing with the Albany Polecats, Salinas Peppers, Reno Chukars, and finished with the Tennessee Tomahawks. Once his professional career had ended, Billy remained active in the sport he loved by instructing younger players and starting up a personal training business- 5 Star Baseball Academy.

While he may be remembered as a local sports legend, to his family, he will be remembered by all for his kindness and love of humanity, a willing caretaker and comforter of souls. Billy deeply loved his family and his friends. He would often say if you were his friend, you were family. Billy was a gentle soul beneath a towering presence. He would give his possessions to someone who needed them more; Never seeking recognition or acclaim. Billy lived his life full of compassion for others, firm in his faith. He loved the Lord and was a blessing to anyone he ever met. Billy will be remembered in our hearts, and loved today, tomorrow, and always!

Sometimes a special person brings the brightest light to the world - even though they are gone- the light will remain!

Bill's legacy will live forever.

Rest easy # 33 until we meet again. I pray Heaven has a baseball team! We know we will find you there!

“Nothing is ever too hard to do when your faith is strong, and your purpose is true.”

A scholarship fund will be set up in honor and memory of Bill Stephens to be awarded to an aspiring Ringgold High School baseball player in 2025.

Scholarship information forthcoming is in process.,

Bill's memorial service will be on Saturday.

November 2, 2024, at 2:00 pm at Rockbridge Church Ringgold, Georgia.

Officiated by Pastor Heath Morton.

Please consider wearing blue/white to his services in memory of Bill.

He loved his Dodgers and his Ringgold Tigers!

Online guest book at [www.wilsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com). Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Homes Wallis – Stewart Chapel, Ringgold, Georgia.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

NOV 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

Rock Bridge Community Church  
265 Poplar Springs Road  
Ringgold, GA 30736

# Tribute Wall

A1

“ AGNB 10u, 12u, 18u purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of William "Billy" Stephens.



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AGNB 10u, 12u, 18u - October 30, 2024 at 07:39 PM

TA

“ Todd A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Billy" Stephens.

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Todd A. - October 03, 2024 at 12:08 PM

DP

“ He was always a protector for the small kids, from kindergarten to high school you were always there to make sure no one would pick on me. I remember your mom would keep my sister and myself while my mom worked and you trying to teach me baseball and I never did understand. I moved away 17 years ago but was in town and ran into you and the first thing you did was give me one of those big Billy bear hugs. Go rest high Billy your work here is done. Gonna miss you.  
From 1979 to 1991 you were my proctor.  
Rest easy Billy  
Dina (Rogers) Parham

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Dina Parham - October 03, 2024 at 03:48 AM

LD

*I remember Billy the few years we lived in Ringgold during the 80s..my sons played ball with him..he always had a 😊  
Those were the best years living in Ringgold.we have many great memories ❤️ rest peaceful Billy.*

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**Laura DiPrima** - October 18, 2024 at 09:24 PM

SK

*Billy and I met a long, long time ago. We became friend and started to work out together by jogging. I have met his family and they have got to be part of my family. I loved Billy, he was a wonderful guy, he will always be in my heart ❤️ and in my memories of him will always be fond. I will miss you my friend, until we meet again.*

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**Stefanie Kessler** - November 02, 2024 at 07:12 AM

LP

*I believe we all grew up together. Such a kind soul. Knowing he is in the arms of Jesus melts my heart. Barbara, you were one of my favorite baby girls and I'm so sorry for your loss, but happy to know you'll see him again!! My condolences to you all....*

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**Lisa Johnson Perry** - November 03, 2024 at 10:56 AM