



Rex Bernard

January 29, 2014

Rex (Beechie) Bernard, 63, went to be his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Tuesday January 28, 2014. He fought a long, hard battle and the Good Lord knew he was tired and ready to go home. Rex was born on May 30, 1950 at Lyons Hospital in Rogersville to Carl and Minnie (Light) Bernard. After graduating from Rogersville High School, he went to work at Eastman Chemical. After 33 years, he retired as Chief operator from building 27 Pilot Plant where he gained his nickname "Beechie". He was known for his caricatures and he enjoyed drawing "for and of" his fellow employees. Blessed with his kindness and talent of always thinking of others, Rex was always ready to help his neighbors, family and friends. He and Tricia moved from Kingsport to his family's farm in the Beech Creek area of Hawkins County in 1994. He loved working on the farm, whether it was cattle, hay, fencing, working on equipment, wood working, gardening, and especially teaching Tricia all these aspects of farming. His true love was playing his guitar and singing praises to his Lord. Although modest about his abilities, he was always glad when asked to sing and play God's praises wherever it was. He received such a blessing when his songs helped touched someone's heart with God's love. Rex and Tricia were baptized together and joined Beech Creek Missionary Baptist Church in July 2009, where they thoroughly enjoyed serving the Lord in many capacities. Along with his parents, Rex is preceded in death by his grandparents, Kyle and Bertha Light and Clyde and Lena (Bernard) Light and his sister Wanda Gibson. He is survived by his wife and partner in all, Tricia Neeley Bernard; son, Ryan Carlson (Amy) Bernard of Gray; sisters, Carolyn (Sam) Horne and Sandra Bernard of Beech Creek; a special brother-in-law, Michael Neeley of Kingsport; three nephews, Sam Jr., Jim and Aaron Horne and several cousins, aunts, uncles and his feline princess Mica. The family would like to express their gratitude to all the staff at Kingsport Hematology and Oncology. They are special people with the biggest, caring hearts ever. Special thanks to Dr. Anil V. Tumkur and all the great chemo nurses (especially Rex's favorite, wonderful Shirley Davis), and our attentive Thursday volunteers. Also, much appreciation to our special friend Bea Galloway for all her help. The family will receive friends Thursday, January from 5pm until 7pm at Tri-Cities Funeral Home Blountville Chapel. The funeral will follow at 7pm with Dr. Bobby Bernard and Jack Morelock officiating. Music will be provided by the ETSU Blue Grass and Old-Time Dept.

Graveside services will be Friday, January 31, 2014 at 1:00 pm, at Tri-Cities Memory Gardens. Family and friends will serve as pall bearers. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to The American Cancer Society, 508 Princeton Rd. Johnson City, TN 37601 or to a charity of your choice. Tri-Cities Funeral Home is honored to serve the Bernard family. For more information, call us at 423-323-3795.

Comments



“ Tricia,

I was so sorry to hear of the passing of my sweet old friend. He's been a friend to me for many, many years. He's with the Lord now, shouting and singing God's praises. I know you will dearly miss him: I know I will miss him. You and Ryan will be in my prayers as you go through this sad time. He was so happy when you married. I will remember him by that smile he had that day. If you need anything or just need to talk. Please don't hesitate to call. All my love,
Kathy M Steadman

kmsteadman - January 30, 2014 at 05:31 PM



“ Tricia,

I am so sorry about Rex, I thought the world of him. My thought and prayers are with you and Mike as you go through this trying time. Just remember all the memories that you made together and take comfort in that. He loved you and Mike and your life on the farm, I think Rex was happy anywhere as long as you were with him..
Take care and if there is anything I can do, please call. Brenda Marsh

kbmarsh - January 30, 2014 at 06:34 AM