



Mr Van Ray Bowman

April 14, 1939 - February 13, 2022

Van Ray Bowman
Carthage, MS

Van Ray Bowman, 82, a retired broiler manager for the poultry industry, died Sunday, February 13, 2022 at his home.

Visitation is 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Saturday, February 19, 2022 at Wilcox Funeral Home. Services are 2:00 pm Sunday, February 20, 2022 at the Wilcox Chapel with Bro. Dan Gilchrist, Bro. Perry McCall, and Bro. Eddie Pilgrim officiating. Interment is in Carthage Memorial Gardens. Wilcox Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Bowman was a native of Neshoba County. He was a member of the Carthage Presbyterian Church and served in the United States Army as a tank commander. He was a member of the Leake County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Bowman also served as a board member of First Financial Bank in Carthage and was inducted into the Poultry Science Hall of Fame at Mississippi State University.

Preceding him in death was a brother, Terrell Tucker and a sister, Helen Tucker Eaves.

Survivors include: his wife, Mary Ann Cotton Bowman of Carthage; a son, Kermit "Ken" Bowman (Diana) of Transfer, PA; a daughter, Brenda Eubanks (Delmas "Moose" of Mount Olive; step-sons, Ronnie Ramsey (Kristy) of Carthage and Robert Ramsey of Saucier; step-daughters, Donna Osman

(Lon) of Columbia, TN, Shelia Rea (Chad) of Union, Stacey Brooks (Todd) of Carthage, Angel Measell (David) of Decatur, and Akemie Rigdon (Mike) of Ludlow; brothers, Bobby Bowman (Kathy) and Taylor Tucker (Vicki) , both of Louisville; sister, Judy Crowson (Larry, deceased) of Hattiesburg; 7 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers are: Brad Ogletree, Connor Herrington, Josh Stokes, David Thomas, Larry Travis, and Clay McCombs.

Honorary pallbearers are: Mac Osbourne, David Herrington, James McLemore, and John Gregory.

Cemetery Details

Carthage Memorial Gardens

North Pearl St
Carthage, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **19**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wilcox Funeral Home
106 S Jordan Street
Carthage, MS 39051
(601) 267-8081
wilcoxfh@netdoor.com
<https://www.wilcoxfuneralhome.com/>

Service

FEB **20**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Wilcox Funeral Home
106 S Jordan Street
Carthage, MS 39051
(601) 267-8081
wilcoxfh@netdoor.com
<https://www.wilcoxfuneralhome.com/>

Burial

FEB **20** (CT)

Carthage Memorial Gardens
North Pearl St
Carthage, MS

Tribute Wall

FH

“ *Faye & Judy Harrell lit a candle in memory of Mr Van Ray Bowman*



Faye & Judy Harrell - February 21, 2022 at 05:18 PM

DO

“ *Van, thank you for being a wonderful husband to my momma, Mary Bowman. We all love you and will miss you tremendously.*

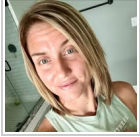
Donna Osmon - February 20, 2022 at 01:37 PM

MR

“ *Van Ray Bowman, my Uncle, thru his marriage to my Maternal Aunt, Tillie Bailey Bowman, throughout 50 plus years of Love, Dedication and Marital bliss, will be greatly missed. He was a self taught man in managerial career. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church in Carthage. He was dignified, yet openly humorous. I feel confident that he and Aunt Tillie are reminiscing and again happily together.*

Too his children, please accept our deepest sympathy.

Mike Reed - February 19, 2022 at 03:16 PM



“ *Sara Craft purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr Van Ray Bowman.*



Sara Craft - February 19, 2022 at 12:12 AM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Mr Van Ray Bowman.*



February 18, 2022 at 12:05 PM

SS

“ *My heartfelt sympathy and prayers for all that loved Uncle Van Ray. From my earliest memories of him to today's I can say that he was a good man with such decency, always so gracious to me and mine and had such a kind soul. He was always pleasant to be around and I enjoyed his sense of humor and his laugh. He is one of few who continued to lovingly call me Sony Kaye into my adult life. He and Aunt Tillie were both a real class act and I loved and respected them both for the life they lived.*

Some of my fondest memories stem from conversations he and I had about the roles and duties he had during his long involvement with the MS Poultry Association and the MS Board of Animal Health. It intrigued me and he was always open to answer my questions of interest about all of it. I was so excited and proud for him, and Aunt Tillie, when he was honored for his many years of work in the poultry industry by being inducted into the MS Poultry Hall of Fame. It has always been a treat to view his portrait displayed in the poultry science building at Mississippi State University. I also enjoyed sharing good meals with him, hearing his golfing stories and him exchanging wild game hunting photos and stories with my two sons. I will always be grateful to him for teaching my sons about ammunition reloading and just taking time to share his love of hunting with them.

*I find comfort in knowing of the awesome homecoming in heaven that took place recently and I am thankful for God's provisions and for Him providing eternal life for all who receive it.
I'll miss you, Uncle Van Ray, until we meet again.*

Sondra Slay

Sondra Slay - February 18, 2022 at 11:52 AM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr Van Ray Bowman.*



February 18, 2022 at 10:55 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr Van Ray Bowman.*



February 18, 2022 at 10:08 AM



“ *Condolences to the family!*



Mary Sharp - February 17, 2022 at 11:27 PM



“ *I wish I had some of the memories my mom and her cousins have of Uncle Van Ray and Aunt Tillie. We just didn't get together as much when I came along. I know they both left behind a great legacy and lots of wonderful memories.*

Sara Craft - February 17, 2022 at 09:54 PM

MA

“ Van Ray you and Tillie was always so accepting of me. I really loved coming to visit you guys. I remember us playing dominos and you yelling at me for blocking you. Lol. Us always watching Wheel of Fortune. Having a mixed drink before bed. You two were definitely two of my favorite family members. RIP, enjoy being on that mountain top. Thank you for always being there for me and my family.



Mary - February 17, 2022 at 07:25 PM

MN

“ Uncle Van Ray you are missed and loved by many. There is a lot I could say about you and Aunt Tillie. Y'all took me in to live with y'all for a while after mommy had stroke. You taught me how to ride and drive first riding lawnmower. I would get in the bottom of hill and go around and around. I remember you talking Aunt Tillie into putting up a Christmas tree when I lived with y'all. She said wasn't any use but you told her to put it up for me. I remember going to some river and us camping with some friends of yours, you and the man went hunting while Aunt Tillie and the man wife watched me play in the water (I didn't know how to swim)!! I could say a lot more but I will stop. Go rest high and watch over us. Love you

Melinda Peery(niece) - February 17, 2022 at 07:09 PM

RB

“ Uncle Van Ray, you will be missed dearly. I remember going to your house with my parents Chuck and Mary Reed and my brother Josh. We cut a watermelon and you taught me and Josh to spit watermelon seeds and Aunt Tillie was upset because Uncle Van Ray said we could in the house. We had so much fun needless to say we moved it outside. It was a wonder day. Go rest high on that mountain. Please tell Aunt Tillie and My brother Josh I said hello and I love them.

Rene' Belin - February 17, 2022 at 06:25 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr Van Ray Bowman.



February 17, 2022 at 05:37 PM

RH

“ Randy and Connie Hanks purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Mr Van Ray Bowman.



Randy and Connie Hanks - February 17, 2022 at 05:34 PM

SB

“ The epitome of class and elegance, that is the only way to describe Uncle Van Ray and Aunt Tillie. Uncle VR had a great influence on my life, whether it was learning to shoot a gun and hunt, or just being silent and learning. He also taught me to appreciate the finer in things in life, like single malt scotch. I raise a glass of Macallan's to him and Aunt Tillie. I thought I was on top of the world riding in the front seat of the Oldsmobile between them, on our way to Six Flags over GA for a Bailey family vacation. There are many fond memories of VR. I am forever grateful to call him Uncle Van Ray. You will be missed by many. May your soul be at rest, Uncle Van Ray.

Suzanne Bailey - February 17, 2022 at 05:10 PM

RB

“ Uncle Van Ray was fun to be around. I always enjoyed going to see him and Aunt Tillie for whatever occasion it was. Alvis and I went bird hunting with him many times, daddy many more times than me of course. A man of few words; he would sit under the oak trees at the family reunion in Eupora and take in all the sights and conversations going on with an occasional chuckle here and there. One of my favorite stories about Uncle Van Ray is when Mr. Sam Walton called Big T while he was the manager at the Philadelphia WalMart and told him to call VR to pick him up at the Carthage airport because he was flying in with Ole Roy to go bird hunting with him. He is surely missed!

Ray Bailey - February 17, 2022 at 04:08 PM

RS

“ Uncle Van Ray will forever be remembered by my family. Our relationship spans 60+ years. He loved me as his own. He and Aunt Tillie took in my brother Chuck after the death of my father when they were a young couple and didn't have to. He taught my son about hunting. I spent summers with them. Time spent visiting friends, and family, going to church, swimming at the CC and working in the pea patch (character building). Sweet memories. I love you and will miss you, prayers and condolences to his children, when fe Mary & her family, and the family of Tillie Bailey Bowman, his wife of 53 years.

Rachael Scarbrough - February 17, 2022 at 04:04 PM