



## Christopher Van (Chris) Posey

December 30, 1943 - November 12, 2018

Christopher Van (Chris) Posey, 74, devoted family man, dynamic business leader, faithful community volunteer, and master story teller passed away November 12, 2018, after a 23-year valiant battle with cancer. He is survived by his cherished wife, Lynda Patton Posey, of 53 years, his beloved children, daughter Parker of New York City; son Chris and wife Collum and their children Isabella, Jack, and Christopher of Laurel. He is also survived by brothers Youree (Jean) of Houston; Mark (Kathy) and daughter Kaitlin of Laurel, and sister, Peggy Kehoe of Houston. He was preceded in death by his parents, Youree and Nautis Posey, sisters Mary and Toni, brother-in-law C.J. Kehoe, and niece Emilie Posey.

Chris was born December 30, 1943, and grew up in Shreveport, LA where he graduated from St. John Berchman, a Jesuit school. He graduated (B.A.) from University of Louisiana Monroe (then Northeast Louisiana). While pursuing his master's degree, he joined the U.S. Army where he served as an Intelligence Officer in Vietnam (July 1969 –1970), deployed overseas from his wife, Lynda, and twins, Chris and Parker, then only eight months old. After his service, he was honorably discharged as a U.S. Army Captain. Chris then joined his uncle's Van-Trow auto dealership in Monroe, LA, where he shortly became sales manager. Chris then pursued his life-long goal of owning and operating his own dealership, forming Chris Posey Chevrolet in 1981 in Laurel, MS. Prior to opening his Laurel business, Chris advertised on radio and in

newspapers that the “Easy Man is coming to town.” Frankly, no one understood then, but eagerly awaited this mystery man who quickly endeared himself to the community.

At the outset, Chris understood that being a leader in the business community paralleled his obligation for service in the Laurel community – often with the simplest acts of kindness. For example, it was not uncommon to see Chris throwing tennis balls to kids as he drove through town. In fact, the back seat of his car was filled with old tennis balls. He would say, “When I grew up, we always wanted a ball to play baseball with.”

Chris was a devoted member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, serving as a lector among many other roles. He was an avid golfer, so much so that he told his son, “After I’m gone, I want my ashes scattered in the #9 sand trap at Laurel Country Club.” Chris was a voracious reader and enjoyed being a volunteer reader at nursing homes. On occasion, he invited residents to his home, offering libations of tea, coffee, or an afternoon toddy to accompany the stories. Chris also could tell a story – whether it be long-winded with a moral point or short with a joke or closing zinger. He peppered his stories with favorite colloquialisms: “That ain’t a lotta sugar for a dime”; “He’s looking at me with a 100-foot stare in a 10-foot room”; and “Harvard can’t teach one common sense.”

Chris loved dearly and will be sorely missed by his many friends that span several generations. He will long be remembered for his quick, ironic wit, his good-natured teasing of those closest to him, and his flair for drama when telling his latest story. His “larger than life” personality matched perfectly the breadth of his kind heart.

The family extends their deepest appreciation, love, and thanks to Sanderson Farms (Joe and Kathy Sanderson) who transported Chris for treatment to and

from Laurel to New York City for treatment for over 10 years. Chris often said, "Joe saved my life and let me see my grandkids longer." The family also wishes to thank the following doctors for their outstanding care: Dr. Derrick Burgess, Dr. Kim Dobbs, Dr. Thomas Dobbs, Dr. Mark Horne, Dr. Nikhil Mukhi, Dr. Graham Rogers of Laurel; Dr. Susan Slovin, Dr. Patrick Boland, Dr. R. Michael Tuttle of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; and Dr. Todd Sitzman of Hattiesburg for their outstanding care, counsel and guidance.

A funeral Mass will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, November 16, 2018 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Laurel. A celebration of Chris' life will follow at the Posey home, 1216 North Sixth Avenue, in Laurel.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Avenue, New York, NY 10065, or to a charity of your choice.

To sign the online guest book, visit [www.memorychapel Laurel.com](http://www.memorychapel Laurel.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

NOV 16. 2:00 PM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
833 W Sixth Street  
Laurel, MS 39440

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ I just learned today that Chris had passed away. I met Chris about 20 years ago when I was traveling through Laurel ..... Viet Nam was our connection. Over the years as I passed through Laurel, headed West I'd stop to have a cup of coffee and say hello. The real connection was Pleiku and the Pleiku Pals . Chris was great guy who I enjoyed corresponding with and telling war stories. After the 2nd trip through Laurel when I was on my way to Washington State, we had more in common than VN .... that would be Bill Pearson who lived near Seattle and was one of Chris' best friends in Vet Nam .... Chris gave me Bill's phone number and threatened that if I didn't call Bill and get together there would be (untold) consequences. Bill and I met and spent a great evening together where I learned what I already knew, that Chris was a great friend and a great guy.

*I'm sorry for your loss, Lynda, Parker and Chris JR. There's a special place in Heaven for great guys like Chris and I hope to meet him there one day to finish our war stories.*

*Elizabeth and I send our sympathies.*

*Mike Hannan  
East Tennessee*

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**Michael Hannan** - February 10, 2019 at 04:11 PM

CP

“ *Hard to grasp Captain Posey leaving Earth. We have been close since 1968, at Fort Benning. He was the brother I never had. Lynda and family, Laurie and I share your loss and grief. It is a empty feeling to lose a brother who served his country. I was having ankle surgery and did not know of CVP's passing. Take care of Lynda,  
Love, Bill and Laurie*

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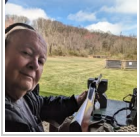
**Captain William Pearson** - December 27, 2018 at 01:23 PM

BC

“ *My sincere condolences to Lynda and family with the passing of Chris Posey. I communicated with Chris via Email for a few years as a fellow Vietnam War veteran of the Pleiku are of the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. The pain and suffering of his cancer is over and now may he rest in eternal peace with our Lord. Bill Comrey of Harrisburg, PA*

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**Bill Comrey** - November 20, 2018 at 10:14 PM



“ Chris belonged to the Pleiku Pals on Facebook. This is a group of veterans who served in the Pleiku, Vietnam area. Today Nov 20, 2018 someone mentioned him and wondered how he was. Chris and I served together with the 525th Military Intelligence in the Pleiku, Vietnam area. He was friends with me on Facebook so I went to his Facebook page and saw what they were saying about him and the I read that he will be missed. I did a search for his obituary and found it. The comments about him sure brought back memories. Chris would be joking and telling stories while the 122mm rockets would be hitting around us. He sure will have Jesus laughing now. I am sure he will be standing at the Pearly Gates to meet me when it is my time to cross over.

Thomas M. Zangla  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

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**Thomas Zangla** - November 20, 2018 at 07:02 PM

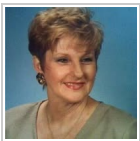


“ James Kientz lit a candle in memory of Christopher Van (Chris) Posey



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**James Kientz** - November 17, 2018 at 07:49 PM



“ Evelyn Poole lit a candle in memory of Christopher Van (Chris) Posey



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**Evelyn Poole** - November 17, 2018 at 07:32 PM

BC

“ So sorry Linda for your loss. Chris is sleeping in peace and not suffering any more.  
Sincerely one of your well taught culinary students. Bonita Clark

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**bonita clark** - November 17, 2018 at 12:08 PM

DB

“ It's hard to lose a brother. My thoughts are with you and your family.  
An old friend from school in Shreveport.

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**Debi Blankenship** - November 17, 2018 at 11:59 AM

 Sandra  
Clark Tew

“ So sorry for your loss.

*Don Hankins*

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**Sandra Clark Tew** - November 16, 2018 at 01:02 PM

SA

“ Mrs. Posey and family,

*It is with my sincere sympathy to hear of the passing of Mr. Posey, during my tenure at Sanderson Farms in 1984 he sold me my first car, and was an awesome, personable, nice, and kind individual, also his brother Mark was outstanding.*

*When people are genuine like that It stays with you for a very long time, your family was blessed to have him as a part of your lives.*

*Sleep in Peace Mr. Posey, and God bless the family*

*Sue Arrington  
Albany NY*

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**Sue Arrington** - November 15, 2018 at 01:26 PM

DA

“ *Lifting the Posey Family in prayer.*

*Donna Allen  
CCMSI*

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**Donna Allen** - November 15, 2018 at 07:38 AM

YM

“ *We were so sad to learn of Chris' death. He was definitely a one of a kind super person. He will truly be missed. We will be praying for all of you at this difficult time. Love, Youree and Jean McBride.*

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**Youree McBride** - November 14, 2018 at 07:41 PM

DH

“ *Mr Chris was always nice on and off the dealership floor. When he made eye contact with you, a hand shake and hello followed . God bless the Posey family during this time.*

*David Holifield*

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**David Holifield** - November 14, 2018 at 04:13 PM

PR

“ *Chris has always been someone in our community to look up to, take sagely advice from and emulate. We will always remember the kindness and friendship he extended to our family and the opportunities he provided. We will miss the man, his stories and his poetry.*

*May the wings of God's grace envelop the Posey family as they mourn his passing.*

*With our deepest condolences,*

*Patrick, Rhonda and Drew Robinson*

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**Patrick Robinson** - November 14, 2018 at 03:49 PM

EV

“ *MY MENTOR AND FRIEND ..LYNDA AND FAMILY I LOVE YOU!!THE KINDEST,FUNNIEST,SMARTEST MAN I KNOW!HE WILL HAVE EVERYONE LAUGHING IN HEAVEN..I WILL SMILE WHEN I THINK OF HIM..THANKS BE TO GOD..EDWIN VICKERY AND FAMILY*

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**EDWIN VICKERY** - November 14, 2018 at 01:52 PM

DH

“ I was saddened when I learned that Chris is gone. I was a young fellow looking for a new direction for my life when I first talked to him in late spring of 1981. He told me he would hire me as one of the "Easy Man's" original "Agreeable Bunch". He certainly had a flair for capturing one's attention. I learned a great deal from Chris and will always appreciate him giving me a start in the automobile business that has been very good to me. May HIS strength, peace, and understanding be with Miss Lynda, Parker, Chris Jr., and all of the extended family.



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**DENNIS HENLEY** - November 14, 2018 at 01:14 PM

JM

“ I'm so sorry that Chris lost the battle with cancer. I first became aware of his cancer when I received a call from him while still living in Louisiana in 2002 or 2003. Somehow he found out that I had been treated for prostate cancer and wanted to talk about the effect of the radiation. After we moved back to Laurel, I joined the support group that he was instrumental in founding and got to meet him face to face. It was a pleasure to hear his stories and commentary at our meetings. We have missed his presence at the meetings for the past several months but know his suffering has finally ended. I was in Vietnam in 1966 and exposed to agent orange also. God bless you all as you go forward. I'm sorry I can't be at the memorial on Friday due to death of my nephew in Colorado and will be traveling Friday for his service on Saturday.  
Joe Morgan

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**Joe Morgan** - November 14, 2018 at 12:49 PM

DS

“ I spent many hours with Chris, driving him to and from Laurel to the New Orleans Airport, as he was taking treatments in New York, during the early stages of his illness. We covered all aspects of life, religion, and business. Great memories of a very wonderful gentleman.

*Don Swanberg*

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**Don Swanberg** - November 14, 2018 at 12:03 PM

EV

“ MY MENTOR AND BELOVED FRIEND !! I CANNOT EXPRESS MY SADNESS AND LOVE OF CHRIS AND LYNDA AND FAMILY..THE FUNNIEST AND KINDNESS PERSON I'VE EVER MET.I LOVE CHRIS POSEY AND WILL REMEMBER HIM WITH A SMILE FOREVER.THANKS BE TO GOD.EDWIN VICKERY AND FAMILY.

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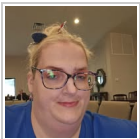
**EDWIN VICKERY** - November 14, 2018 at 11:42 AM

JD

“ So sorry for you loss my thoughts an prayers are with your family in this time of grief Johnnie " Douglas " Drummond

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**Johnnie Douglas Drummond** - November 14, 2018 at 11:30 AM



“ The Reba Varner family send our thoughts and prayers to the family

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**Holly Varner** - November 14, 2018 at 10:54 AM