



Joshua Lee Craven

March 12, 1978 - May 10, 2014

Joshua Lee Craven, 36, of Laurel, died Saturday, May 10, 2014, at his residence.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 17, 2014, at Memory Chapel with burial to follow at Bethlehem Community Church Cemetery. Rev. Jamie Altman and Rev. Robert Scruggs will officiate.

He worked as a service tech with Jimco Pumps and was a member of Bethlehem Community Church.

He is survived by his father and step-mother, Ralph and Wanda Craven of Laurel; mother, Jamie Proctor Pugh of Laurel; one daughter, Callie Dakota Craven of Laurel; two sisters, Ashley Craven Corey and husband, Michael of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Emily Craven Smith and husband, Donny of Laurel; one step-brother, Jason Perkins and his wife and five children of Memphis, TN; one step-sister, Amanda Veon and three children of Petal; grandmother, Auzell Craven of Soso; and one nephew, Donald Shane Smith. Pallbearers will be James Heidleberg, Austin Pittman, Jeremie Ezell, Marcus Moore, Jason Perkins, and Andy Spurlin.

In lieu of flowers the family would like donations to be made to www.youcarin.com/joshcravenmemorial. Funds donated in Josh's memory will go to benefit the Mission at the Cross in Laurel, MS. Mission at the Cross is a Hellfighter International ministry focusing on the physical, mental, and spiritual needs of the homeless, underprivileged and hopeless.

Visitation will be from 5 until 8 p.m. Friday, May 16, 2014, at Memory Chapel

which is in charge of the arrangements. To view and sign the family guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Tribute Wall

W.

“ I just realized in the past 24hrs that I knew and was friends with the late Joshua Craven after seeing pictures of him on his sister's FB page. Friends told me so many times that I knew him, however, until seeing a picture of him, I wasn't sure if they were crazy or I was. It's a bit late, but considering the circumstances, I felt obligated to share a few of the brief memories I have of our missed friend. Josh and I had several mutual friends over the years; consequently, we'd cross paths on a few occasions. Literally, we hung out maybe 4 or 5 times, but though our encounters were mostly limited to small talk, I could tell from the start that Josh was one of a kind: he had some of the most perfect personality combinations- he seemed humble and the type to keep to himself to the average strangers, yet those friendly "stranger to no one" eyes of his made him the exact opposite. Everyone wanted to be his friend, and he didn't make that a hard task, as he was so easily approachable. I recall thinking to myself one night at a gathering, as I ethesdrooped as a stranger introducing himself to josh seemed a bit trembly in his voice. I laughed to myself as I thought of something that never crossed my mind: having a friend like josh in your corner wasn't only for sheer companionship. This humble, friendly gent was also someone you'd want on your side in a bad situation with the odds stacked against you. Ha. Ha. I never recalled seeing josh lose his temper, but anyone could tell ya that he'd stand up for anyone, no matter the odds or how brief he'd known the one in need of help. He was just a stand-up guy with a good moral head on his shoulders and he didn't have to raise a hand or his voice to let any wrongdoers get the idea. The few times I was lucky to hang out and enjoy a few laughs with josh, I never once saw or heard of him losing his temper. From my perspective he was a down to earth, kind hearted youngster with a witty & intelligence about him that made him a friend that anyone would love to have. I only wish I had had many more oportunites over the years to cross paths with him again and catch up on everything in between and exchange a few laughs before the bond fires burned out. I will continue to pray for the friends and loved ones of Josh, and pray that, if they haven't already, they'll find peace in knowing he's in a place with a new and younger body,

where there is no pain, and only eternal happiness as he walks at our Father's side. And I pray that the garbage of those who have used condemning outbursts and mocked using misquoted scripture will never turn or misguide anyone's faith. As a self-educating theologian, a follower of Christ, and... Yes, also a sinner (which shouldn't be much of a shock to most); based on my educated belief or theory or whatever one wishes to call it; I believe no matter how sinful someone's life is at the time of their calling, nor how sinful their manner of death; I believe that between that very last breathe we take until the very last heartbeat, that God can come into our souls in that tiny INSTANT and rescue us from the sins of our flesh and save us so that no matter what we were doing at our moment of transition, He gives us one last chance. After all, we are his children. Any Father would fight with all his might for his children until the very end. R..I.P. J.C.

W.R.B. - August 31, 2015 at 07:28 PM

LH

“ *Crotch rocket sorry to hear about you old buddy you will be missed by many peace out old buddy*

lee husband - May 29, 2014 at 04:04 PM

CJ

“ *So sorry to hear of Josh's passing. My prayers or with your family at this time.*

Clay Johnson - May 17, 2014 at 10:30 AM

DB

“ *I am very sorry to here this. My deepest sympathy to the entire family.*

Derek Brantley - May 16, 2014 at 09:57 AM

DP

“ sorry for your loss; prayers lifted for you and your family

Doris Pates - May 15, 2014 at 03:18 PM

GF

“ Your in our thoughts and prayers. May God blanket this family with comfort and peace.

Gregg Bailey and Family - May 14, 2014 at 08:30 PM

DM

“ I ask God to comfort and give you peace in your long days ahead, thoughts and prayers be with each if you??

Deborah McAndrews - May 14, 2014 at 07:15 PM

PA

“ I have wonderful memories of Josh as a kid riding the school bus with me , I would protect him from the older mean kids and In turn he would always make me laugh with some silly story or joke , he was always smiling no matter what the circumstance . Rest In Peace Josh you are missed by All who knew you !

Pasha Abbey - May 14, 2014 at 07:05 PM

JM

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying for peace and comfort for you all. ??

Jojo and Stacy McKee - May 14, 2014 at 05:26 PM

KR

“ Very sorry to hear this.

Kyle Reynolds - May 14, 2014 at 04:32 PM

BV

“ So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Brittany Lowery Viner - May 14, 2014 at 03:45 PM

MM

“ I met Josh back when I was working at Rite Aid in Laurel. He was the nicest guy. He never forgot me. Every time he would see me around town he would speak and say hey! That meant a lot to me. I will miss seeing him around town. His Family and friends are in my prayers during this hard time. Much Love!!

Matthew McCraney - May 14, 2014 at 01:15 PM

DM

“ Thoughts and prayers during the loss of your child, I'm very sorry, I feel your pain Josh is with his former classmate Bradley McAndrews.?

Deborah McAndrews - May 14, 2014 at 09:26 AM

GC

“ Josh is one of the most wonderful and amazing people I have ever known. I feel like I have loved him my whole life although I only knew him for half of it. I have never known a father to love his child more than he loved his little girl. He had a heart of gold and I will miss him terribly. My condolences go out to his family and friends. Josh made his mark on this world and we are all better to have known him.

Gennifer Connell - May 14, 2014 at 08:29 AM

MP

“ Praying for your family. I went to school with Josh and he was always a sweetheart. God be with you all during this time.

Missy Adams Prince - May 13, 2014 at 09:25 PM