



## Kenneth Wayne Davis

February 14, 1947 - August 3, 2020

Kenneth Wayne Davis, 73, of Laurel MS passed away Monday August 3rd 2020.

Due to the current situation with regards to COVID-19, there will be no scheduled visitation. A graveside service will be held at Lake Park Hills Cemetery in Laurel on Thursday, August 6, at 10:00 a.m. His pastor, Dr. Randy Turner, will officiate. If you plan to attend the service, please consider wearing a mask and practicing social distancing as much as possible. Casual attire is encouraged.

Pallbearers are Steve Hindman, David Feldman, David Ratcliff, Luther "Bubba" Bonds, Craig Sims, Phil Dickson, James Ray Bush, Guy Sanford, and David McGowan. Honorary pallbearers are David Jones, Bobby Knox, and Dick Gatlin.

A native of Newton, MS he was born on February 14th 1947 to the late Mary Juliette and Louis Ivor Davis. This is where his legendary stories began. Growing up in the small town he loved to talk of his days on his Cushman scooter delivering the local paper.

Upon graduation of high school in 1965 he went East Central Community College and then on to Mississippi State University where he obtained a

bachelor's degree in production management in 1969.

As his life continued on, he would join the Air National Guard during the Vietnam war. The story of how his entrance into the military came about was yet another story he would tell time and time again. But we will save it for another day. His short-lived military career would find him entering a field that he never intended.

For the next seven years he would find himself working for the Department of Bank Supervision. This would begin his banking career. Federal Reserve School in Washington DC would lead him into a career as the President of Merchants and Manufacturer's Bank. His twenty-year tenure there would lead him to amass a collection of stories of epic proportions. His expertise led to chairman of the board seats at The Bank of Manatee, People's Bank of Olive Branch, First National Bank of Newton, and Community Bank of Ellisville.

Those that knew him know that his passion for the restoration of classic cars was a life-long joy. His collection of cars brought him a sense of pride and gave him endless things to talk about with all those that came around.

But his true love in this world was his wife Joni Jean Davis. Married in 1977 in a small intimate ceremony, they would go on to have two boys they would take on countless camping trips in an Airstream travel trailer and then a motorhome later in life. They would travel all over North America taking in the sights of the beautiful landscape it provides. Wayne loved his family more than any mere words could express and his family loved him. He will be missed by all who knew him.

The Davis family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the ICU staff of Wesley Merit Hospital. Their care and concern for him was so appreciated.

He is survived by his loving wife, Joni Davis of Laurel; two sons, Matthew Wayne Davis (Kathryn) and Jonathon Earl Davis (Kerri) all of Laurel; two brothers, Glenn Davis of Houston, TX and Kerry Davis of Batesville, MS; and four grandchildren, Thomas Wray Davis, Joshua Davis, Guy Davis, and Mary Pierce Davis.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to First Baptist Church of Laurel in his memory.

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

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

AUG 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Lake Park Hills Cemetery  
2806 Emmy Dr.  
Laurel, MS 39440

# Tribute Wall

WC

“ *Joni- I just recently found out about Wayne. I am so sorry. He was my dear friend for many years. I moved and lost touch but I always knew he was there. And I think he did the same. I am truly saddened and wish the best for you and your family. I hope you get this since it is so late. God Bless to all and Wayne.*

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**Wyatt Collins** - December 09, 2020 at 10:47 AM

TC

“ *Joni and family,*

*There are no words of comfort during such heartbreak. You and Wayne have a special place in our thoughts, prayers and memories.*

*David and Wayne were such good friends who shared a love and passion for collecting, restoring and driving vintage cars—My girls and I often reminisce about those times. I have always admired you and Wayne for your dedication to each other, your family and your generosity.*

*You, Wayne, Matthew and Johnathan will always have a special place in our hearts. May God comfort you during the difficult days ahead.*

*Teresa Wilson Chancellor  
Kandace Wilson Monsivais  
Krissy Wilson Brown*

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**Teresa Wilson Chancellor** - August 14, 2020 at 09:14 AM

MM

“ I was saddened to hear about Wayne. We grew up together a few houses apart in Newton. I was a year ahead of him in school. We both had paper routes, and would meet at the bus station to receive our papers to deliver. Wayne had a cushman scotter and I had a small Harley Davidson. We had a lot of good memories together. I'm so sorry for your loss.

*Mickey Mc Donald*

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**Mickey McDonald** - August 09, 2020 at 12:05 AM

DD

“ Wayne was someone i could always go to for advise on many issues. I always enjoyed our visits together and watching the boys grow up to become men Wayne was proud of. i will miss him.

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**David Dill** - August 06, 2020 at 06:45 PM



“ Wayne will be sorely missed. He was a great guy and a friend to me. Our prayers are with Joni, the boys and the family.  
*Joe Johnson*

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**Joe Johnson** - August 05, 2020 at 10:37 AM

GC

“ Joni, words cannot express the deep sadness when I heard about Wayne. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May God's peace be with you all.

*Jean Carlos*

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**Gloria Jean Logan Carlos** - August 05, 2020 at 07:55 AM

DP

“ Wayne was so good to me when I worked at M&M Bank. I was young and dumb sometimes but he was there for me. I'm thankful God had our paths to cross.

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Denny Patterson - August 04, 2020 at 07:36 PM

JS

“ Mr. Wayne. Though he was my childhood best friend's father, he was like a father to me as well. He was teaching me things all the times I was around the Davis home. From old timey cars to grilling the meat. He was always working on restoring old cars or taking us camping in the summer. He made the thickest juiciest hamburgers ever. I was blessed to be apart of this wonderful family. Mr. Wayne pulled me for my first time knee boarding and water skiing. He taught me important things in life even when a "class" wasn't in session, like safely driving the boat. I was always watching and listening taking it all in. He was a loving man but he could get tough too. I loved this man like a father and truly glad that I had the opportunity to be a small part of his life. To Mrs. Joni, Matthew and Jonathan I am deeply sorry for your loss. You all are so special to me and who I am today. I love you and may God grant you all comfort and peace during this time. Love, Josh



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josh satcher - August 04, 2020 at 06:49 PM

CS

“ Haven't seen Wayne in some time now, however, I will never forget walking into the back yard of the Davis' summer home in Gautier, MS. They were having the land cleared and the guy working the tractor buried it up to the axle in mud. I looked at Wayne, Joni and Matthew and asked if we could be friends. It was nothing but great times from there. We spend many weekends hanging out and laughing until it hurt. Time changed and we have not seen each other over the last 10 years or so, but I'll never forget our friendship and the great times we had. God bless the Davis family and thank you for the memories. Love Caty

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**caty savage** - August 04, 2020 at 06:08 PM

JF

“ Jason Hoffman and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Kenneth Wayne Davis.



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**Jason Hoffman and Family** - August 04, 2020 at 05:47 PM