



Larry Dale Atkinson

November 14, 1953 - August 19, 2020

Larry Dale Atkinson, 66, of Magnolia, AR passed away Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at his residence surrounded by his family.

Larry was born November 14, 1953 and was a lifelong resident of Columbia County. He was a graduate of SAU, with a bachelor's degree in Business Agriculture. His early work background was quite eclectic. He was a grounds keeper for Dow Chemical, a school bus driver, manager of Magnolia Feed, and a gentleman approached Larry and told him he wanted him to come to work for him. Thus, his position as Project Manager for Lake Columbia from 1984 until he took office as Columbia County Judge in January 1, 2007. He felt privileged to serve in this position until he was forced to retire February 29, 2020, due to a terminal brain tumor.

His granddaughters were his greatest treasure and he loved them immensely. He also loved raising his cows and everything that went along with doing that. Even when he was sick, he was able to fertilize, cut, fluff, rake, roll and put up hay, repair fences, move cows and bushhog.

Larry was pretty quiet and extremely unassuming and hated attention. He lived humbly. He shared that he felt honored to work in his hometown.

He was preceded in death by his father William Morris "Bill" Atkinson, brother William Morris "Buddy" Atkinson, Jr., and mother and father in law Libby and Larry Pearce. Larry is survived by his wife of 34 years Debbie Longino Atkinson of Magnolia, son Wil Atkinson and girlfriend Leah Chandler of Magnolia, daughter Shelby Pennington and husband Tanner of Waldo, mother Laverne Atkinson of Magnolia, two sisters Becky Collier and husband Douglas and Debbie Tarver, sister in law Glenda Atkinson, beloved granddaughters Abigail and Maggie Atkinson, Ryan and Logan Pennington, numerous nephews, nieces, great nephews, great nieces, and extended family and friends.

Graveside services will be held on Sunday, August 23, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Frazier Cemetery with Dr. Eric Goble officiating under the direction of Lewis Funeral Home, Inc. in Magnolia. Visitation will be Saturday, August 22 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Pallbearers will be Kevin Collier, Brannon Collier, Brandon Buford, Brent Atkinson, Bob Lewis, Justin Tarver, Michael Hair, and John Hilderbrand. Honorary pallbearers, there are

too many to list. There was always an abundance of supporters, people who he respected, encouragers who believed in him, counsel who advised him, employees who respected him and who he trusted, and most importantly a God who guided him daily. The family requests memorial donations be made to Frazier Cemetery, 341 Columbia Rd 148, Waldo, AR 71770 or Columbia County Cattleman's Association, PO Box 1411, Magnolia, AR 71754.

To sign the online guest book or to share a memory visit www.lewisfuneralhome.biz

Cemetery

Events

Frazier Cemetery

County Road 27 South
Magnolia, AR,

AUG

22

Visitation

03:00PM - 06:00PM

Lewis Funeral Home Inc. - Magnolia

420 North Jackson P.O Box 38, Magnolia, AR, US, 71753

AUG

23

Graveside Service

02:00PM

Frazier Cemetery

County Road 27 South, Magnolia, AR, US

Comments



“ Debbie, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Laura Johnson Zimmerman - August 24 at 11:46 AM



“ I first met Larry in 1984. He took on a job that needed a calm, steady hand, and he performed perfectly. What a kind, unassuming gentleman. Mr. Larry, you went out your way...Believing, Loving your family, working, farming, ranching. God Bless your family. Prayers.

George Wheatley - August 24 at 11:27 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
Terry and Ginger Cook



Terry and Ginger Cook - August 23 at 11:31 AM



“ Prayers for all of you, he was a GREAT man who we loved dearly, he has lived a life of true example anyone to follow, I am glad his is in no more pain and we will see each other again one day

Mark Fullenwider - August 23 at 11:29 AM



“ Thought and prayers to Larry's family...Debbie, Shelby, Will, Aunt Laverne and all the rest. I don't believe I've ever known a nicer person. I will always be grateful for trip Larry, Debbie and Aunt Laverne made to see us in Minnesota last year. Love Anita

Anita Embree - August 22 at 10:16 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Atkinson.



August 22 at 10:14 PM



“ Risa L. Ibert lit a candle in memory of Larry Dale Atkinson



Risa L. Ibert - August 22 at 06:46 PM



“ Prayers from Gena and I for Debbie, Will and all of the family. Larry was a good man and a good friend and we will miss him.

Alan Davis - August 22 at 03:14 PM



“ My cousin Larry fought the good fight and now is in God’s hands. No more suffering. A real gentle man of faith.
Praying for aunt Lavern his mother Debbie his wife Wil his son Shelby his daughter his precious grandbabies. All the cousins like me and other family. Rest In Peace dear Larry Dale you are loved and will be so missed June & Jack Poyner

June Poyner - August 22 at 11:58 AM



“ Prayers for Ms Laverne and Debbie, Will, Shelby and family I am praying for you all for peace and comfort!!! Larry was a good good man that I always respected!

Comment

Share Renita

a day ago

Debbie, Will, Shelby and family I am praying for you all for peace and comfort!!! Larry was a good good man that I always respected! Love y'all so much,

Reni

Share



Waynell Tatom - August 22 at 11:56 AM



“ I had never met this great man but through every loving post from his daughter I felt that I had! Photos shared showed he loved his Family and truly was meant to be a grandparent. Rest now and cherish the legacy you have created!
Love Tammy Calnan

Tammy Calnan - August 22 at 11:49 AM



“ I enjoyed serving as county judge with Larry through the years. He was a good friend and always willing to help in any situation. He will definitely be greatly missed! Our condolences to all of Larry's family.

Jimmy and Donna Jones - August 22 at 10:42 AM



“ We all attended church together when we were kids. Every Sunday I would see Laverne and the 4 kids come in. Larry was always quite and pleasant. Those were wonderful days growing up with the Atkinson bunch. Wonderful person. He will be missed.

Brenda Kyle - August 22 at 10:34 AM



“ Gone to soon but Larry's mark on the people of Columbia County will be forever. Love to family.
Janas Keith Calender

Janas Calender - August 22 at 10:14 AM



“ Grief is a journey we are never prepared to take. It's all uphill. I pray The Lord will comfort you every step of the way. My thoughts and most heartfelt prayers are with you.

Penny Cook - August 22 at 09:37 AM



“ Dewayne-Virginia Jackson lit a candle in memory of Larry Dale Atkinson



Dewayne-Virginia Jackson - August 22 at 08:33 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Debbie and Shelby and the rest of your family, prayers and hugs to yall.



Lisa Pennington - August 21 at 09:40 PM



“ What an amazing man I was blessed to meet. Debbie my heart breaks for you. I wish you nothing but love and comfort as you walk this sad journey in life. Look at the brightest star in the heavens and know it is Larry looking down on you. He will live forever in your heart. My love and prayers to you and your precious family.

Love you, Paula Allen

paula allen - August 21 at 09:34 PM



“ Linda Hines lit a candle in memory of Larry Dale Atkinson



Linda Hines - August 21 at 08:55 PM



“ Debbie and family. I am so sorry for your loss. I didn't know Larry that well but I know that the citizens of Columbia County was blessed to have a leader like him. You will be in our prayers

Melinda Reynolds

Melinda Reynolds - August 21 at 08:32 PM



“ The Systems Group purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Larry Dale Atkinson.



The Systems Group - August 21 at 06:57 PM



“ Rene Wilson lit a candle in memory of Larry Dale Atkinson



Rene Wilson - August 21 at 06:05 PM



“ Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Candy and Rusty Adams
Hot Springs Village AR

Candy Adams - August 21 at 05:27 PM



“ Debbie and family, I am so sorry to hear a out Larry. We spent many school days sitting by each other. He was always such a nice guy - very quiet and unassuming. Blessings for you and your family.
Holly Atkinson Tubbs

Holly Tubbs - August 21 at 04:33 PM



“ Debbie, Wil, Shelby, granddaughters & family - my heart breaks for all of you. Larry fought a hard battle to the end with the same dignity & humility he exhibited throughout his life. Cherish all the memories and wonderful times made together. May God give you strength and comfort in the days ahead. My love to all.



Sue Rinehart Blevins - August 21 at 04:14 PM



“ So very sorry to hear this, Debbie...you and your famil are in my thoughts and prayers...

Fran Raspberry - August 21 at 10:22 PM



“ Prayers are with Larry's family. A good man was called home.



Charles and Rabecca Beckham - August 21 at 02:37 PM



“ Stately Lilies was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Atkinson.



August 21 at 01:33 PM



“ Joani Smitherman lit a candle in memory of Larry Dale Atkinson



Joani Smitherman - August 21 at 01:31 PM



“ Praying for the family, I'm so sorry for your Loss.

Joani Smitherman - August 21 at 01:32 PM



“ Prayers for the family. Larry was a quite honorable person who will be missed. Love and Hugs to the family.
Jackie and Judy Hudman.



Judy Hudman - August 21 at 01:29 PM



“ Debbie and family, our prayers are with you during this time of loss. Be comforted now that Larry is well and looking down over you. He was such a good man and a great father, leader in our community and a friend to anyone he met. He will be missed but never forgotten.

Kenny and Leshia Kendrick - August 21 at 01:28 PM



“ Debbie, I am so sorry to hear this. My heart aches for you and your family. My deepest condolences. Dinah Rhea

Dinah Rhea - August 21 at 12:57 PM



“ I am praying for Larry's family...

Robert P Inzer - August 21 at 12:31 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Cathy Hardin Harrison
Miller County Judge

Cathy Hardin Harrison - August 21 at 12:02 PM



“ Debbie, you and your family are in my prayers. Praying for comfort and peace for you in the difficult days ahead.

Angie Drummond



Angie Drummond - August 21 at 11:56 AM



“ Debbie and family please know you are in our prayers. Larry was always very nice. Proud of his leadership as judge of Columbia County as well. He will be missed. Praying for comfort as you face the days ahead.

Philip and Terri Story

Terri Story - August 21 at 11:36 AM



“ Debbie, Will, Shelby and family I am praying for you all for peace and comfort!!! Larry was a good good man that I always respected! Love y'all so much,
Renita

Renita - August 21 at 11:31 AM



“ Condolences to this family whom I have known all my life! My heart aches for his sweet mom. Larry performed the ceremony when Mike Butler and I married 10 years ago and I never dreamed both Larry and Mike would pass away within 10 years. I was so honored that Larry officiated.

Brenda Butler - August 21 at 11:15 AM



“ Prayers for your family. A sweet, kind man!

Patty Clary - August 21 at 09:04 AM



“ Such a hard loss, not only to his family but our community as well. Heartfelt condolences & prayers to Larry's precious family.
Greg & Felicia Moore

Felicia Moore - August 21 at 08:59 AM



“ Larry will certainly be missed! He was a friend, an honorable man, husband and father. He was the right man for the job as County Judge at the right time. Sympathies to a Debbie and the entire family!

ken Sibley - August 21 at 08:55 AM



“ Happy trails my brother and my friend. I will miss our banter with mamma and our morning talks among the cows. I look out now onto your herd and know they miss your gentle voice and your walking through greeting each of them. You have left big shoes to fill but know those left behind will take utmost care. The pain of your leaving way too soon is softened in knowing you are whole again and pain free roaming the pastures of heaven along with daddy, Buddy and so many others who went on before you. Be comforted in knowing you were loved by me, your family and so many left behind. I end this visit like when you were here, I love you brother, take care.

Debbie Atkinson Tarver - August 21 at 08:28 AM



“ Prayers for your family. He was such a good man

Debbie Neill - August 21 at 08:59 AM



“ My heart is with you, Debbie, Becky, Aunt Laverne and the whole family. I am so glad he got to marry Tony and I three years ago. Prayers for peace and rest! Love you, Michelle

Michelle Burchfield Walker - August 21 at 09:11 AM



“ Debbie, Shelby and Will and family; I am so sorry for your loss, He was such a good boss. My heart is breaking for you. Sending prayers of peace and comfort to you and your family at this time. Martha Jones

Martha Jones - August 20 at 10:48 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

David & Amy Sisson

Amy Sisson - August 20 at 07:14 PM



“ Kellyanne Bailey lit a candle in memory of Larry Dale Atkinson



Kellyanne Bailey - August 20 at 05:43 PM



“ Thoughts & Prayers for all of the family. Annette Mooney

Annette Mooney - August 20 at 06:13 PM



“ Deepest Sympathy to the family in their tragic loss. One day we will understand why one so full of life and so much to live for was taken in his prime. May God comfort all of you today and in the days to come as you adjust to life without him.. Thinking especially of LaVerne , my long time friend. I love you,

Margie Dean - August 21 at 09:56 AM



“ Oh Debbie!! I continued to have hope for Larry's life. But we know God called him home. I'm praying for you and Will and all, that God will comfort you all and bless you abundantly. Larry was such a nice guy to everyone. No one can say a bad word about him. We should strive to live our lives as he did. He will be sorely missed.

Karen Garrett Pierce - August 21 at 09:36 PM



“ I knew Larry from elementary through high school. One of the nicest people that one could know. He was kind, thoughtful and considerate in his formative years. I knew that he would be the same as a husband, father, etc. My prayers go out to his family with their loss!

Mark Whiddon - August 21 at 09:38 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Larry was a very kind man.

Betty Braswell Smith. - August 21 at 10:43 PM