



Bobby Lee Rice

July 13, 1954 - October 9, 2020

Bobby Lee Rice, 66, of Altavista, went to be with his Lord on October 9, 2020 at Lynchburg General Hospital. Born in Altavista, he was the son of the late Luther Perrow Rice and the late Iris Neal Rice, both of Altavista.

Bobby graduated from Altavista High School in 1972 and entered the work force. He worked at BGF Industries for 45 years where he was proud of his work and loved to keep everyone laughing. Bobby always had a story to tell and didn't know a stranger. He was also an avid Dallas Cowboys fan who was often seen wearing their regalia.

Bobby was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Luther Ray Rice, and sister, Shelia Shelton Anthony, as well as a niece, Lisa Kelly Headley.

Bobby is survived by his daughter, C. Dawn Rice Purvis and her husband, Eugene of Madison Heights; his grandsons, Corporal Levi Todd Purvis of the United States Marine Corps, Lance Corporal Austin Eugene Purvis of the United States Marine Corps and his fiancé, Tabitha, and granddaughter, Madelynn Dawn Purvis of Madison Heights. He is also survived by his brother, Jimmy Rice and wife, Gail of Altavista and children, Krystal Rice and Crista Horton, his sister, Lisa Thurman and children, Megan of Richmond, Grayson and Krisily of Altavista, special nephew, Christopher Rice (who was always there when Bobby needed him) and spouse, Andrea of Hurt, nephews,

Kendall Rice of Hurt, and Michael Kelly of Spring Hill, FL.

A graveside service will be conducted at Lambs United Methodist Church, Altavista on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 11: 00 a.m. and will be officiated by Pastor Yusang Chung.

The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to the service.

The family would like to thank everyone who has looked out for Bobby over the years and has taken the time to listen to his stories of hitting swimming pools and hearing him say "It's a Bobby thing."

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Bobby's name to Lambs United Methodist Church-Treasurer, 3098 Marysville Rd., Altavista, VA 24517.

Cemetery Details

Lambs United Methodist Church Cemetery

2591 Lambs Church Rd.
Altavista, VA 24517

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **14**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lambs Community Church
2591 Lambs Church Rd.
Altavista, VA 24517

Graveside Service

OCT **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lambs Community Church Cemetery
2591 Lambs Church Rd.
Altavista, VA 24517

Tribute Wall



“ *Marian lit a candle in memory of Bobby Rice*



Marian - May 02, 2023 at 04:34 PM



“ *Mitchell Walker lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Mitchell Walker - October 29, 2020 at 09:34 PM



“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - October 14, 2020 at 03:11 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Graveside Service*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - October 14, 2020 at 02:45 PM

JB

“ We were sorry to hear about Bobby. I worked with him for many years. You all are in our thoughts and prayers. *Jimmy Bane*



Jimmy Bane - October 13, 2020 at 11:52 PM

RC

“ *Randolph And Joyce Coffey lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Randolph and Joyce Coffey - October 13, 2020 at 08:19 PM

JT

“ *Rest In Peace "Kid". You will be sadly missed. Your Mom has her arms open for you!*

Jimmy and Lisa B Thurman



Jimmy and Lisa B Thurman - October 13, 2020 at 04:27 PM

PO

“ Penny Owens lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice



Penny Owens - October 13, 2020 at 12:40 PM

MW

“ Michael Williamson lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice



Michael Williamson - October 13, 2020 at 07:53 AM

CN

“ Bobby Lee was a great person and as my wife, Shirley said Bobby would always look us up when we were in Virginia. I'm sure Bobby can remember me when I always visited with him when I was at his mother's house my Aunt Iris. I have always lived in California, I joined the Navy and made California my home. I really don't know too many family members. But our prayers will be with Bobbie's family and if there is anything we can do please let us know. Reverend Charles E. Neal, Bobbie's cousin.



Charlese Neal - October 12, 2020 at 10:56 PM

RR

“ *My prayers are with Bobby’s family.*
Ruth Rice



Ruth Rice - October 12, 2020 at 08:02 PM



“ *Jay Rice lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Jay Rice - October 12, 2020 at 06:46 PM

ST

“ *To Mr. Bobby Rice’s family, I am terribly sorry and saddened to hear about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this very difficult time.*
Stacy and Mike Pully and family



stacy - October 12, 2020 at 05:50 PM

DE

“ *Bobby was such a wonderful person. He always had a joke or story to make you laugh. Praying for his family and friends.*



David Epperson - October 12, 2020 at 05:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bobby Lee Rice.*



October 12, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ *Bruce & Angie Gledhill lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Bruce & Angie Gledhill - October 12, 2020 at 09:50 AM



“ *Rice Family*
I was saddened to hear about your loss. I will cherish the memories I have of Bobby. When I worked a blood drive in Altavista I knew Bobby would always be there. Bobby was a faithful blood donor. We would always talk about what we did growing up.
Nancy Mitchell Ashwell

Nancy Mitchell Ashwell - October 12, 2020 at 09:34 AM



I grew up knowing Bobby. We just talked at the moose the other week. He Loved his family.

Diane Guill - October 14, 2020 at 06:10 PM

JB

“ *Jerry Barnard lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Jerry Barnard - October 12, 2020 at 08:39 AM

KM

“ *Kenneth R Martin lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Kenneth R Martin - October 12, 2020 at 01:16 AM

BD

“ *Bonnie Payne Dawson sent a virtual gift in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Bonnie Payne Dawson - October 11, 2020 at 09:35 PM

EP

“ *Eddie. / Gayle Puckette lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Eddie. / Gayle Puckette - October 11, 2020 at 08:44 PM

JR

“ *RIP Bobby.
Darrell & JoAnne Rorer*



JoAnne Rorer - October 11, 2020 at 08:19 PM

KT

“ *Our family had many talks with Bobby at
Chef's..Great man ..Prayers for all*



K Taylor - October 11, 2020 at 08:19 PM

VM

“ *Always thought a lot of Bobby. Worked at BGF a lot of years with
him.He was a hard worker . Prayers for his family know he will be
really missed! RIP*

Virginia Martin - October 11, 2020 at 06:18 PM

ER

“ *Bobby was a good kind person he kept me laughing of his stories
he never looked down on no one keeping the family in my prayers
and thoughts*

erma reynolds - October 11, 2020 at 06:03 PM

SB

“ *Family,*

So sorry was your loss. Bobby was always smiling and made you smile. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

*Love,
Sue (Mitchell) Blackstock*



Sue Blackstock - October 11, 2020 at 05:34 PM



Prayers of comfort to Bobby's family. I worked many years with him. Bobby was a good friend. Be blessed. Charlie Dews.

Charlie Dews - October 11, 2020 at 10:20 PM

CS

“ *Cindy Stewart lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



cindy stewart - October 11, 2020 at 05:17 PM

RG

“ *Bobby was always there for his friends. I haven't seen Bobby since high school, but he was always someone you could depend on if you needed a friend. The family and friends of Bobby were blessed to have known him and been a part of his life. Rest in Peace Bobby. Praying for the family and close friends of a old friend gone to soon. May God give you all comfort in the days ahead.*



Ray Guill - October 11, 2020 at 05:17 PM

PD

“ Prayers for all. He could make anyone laugh.

Pamela Dowdy - October 11, 2020 at 05:05 PM

RN

“ Roger Newman lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice



Roger Newman - October 11, 2020 at 05:03 PM

MW

“ Mike & Jo Ann Weeks lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice



Mike & Jo Ann Weeks - October 11, 2020 at 04:02 PM

GH

“ My prayers go out to Bobby family at this sad time for them, it was a pleasure to have known him times we talked with him at Chef's, as he would always say, the Lord help me get up another day with all the pain I have today and also would say, if I knew going live this long, would have took better care of myself when younger.

Glenn & Alice Hancock - October 11, 2020 at 03:44 PM

JA

“ Thoughts and prayers to Bobby's family and friends. His kind spirit and outgoing personality will be missed around town. Rest in Peace my friend.

Janet & Bobby Thurman



Janet - October 11, 2020 at 03:35 PM

KH

“ My heartfelt love to Dawn- Bobby's daughter, her children, Eugene, & the family. Dawn take comfort in knowing you always did everything right & the way he wanted it. I see from all the stories shared where you get your sense of humor. Your dedication to your dad was above & beyond- even when riding the roads in Altavista to see what he was up to next ❤️ You did a beautiful job on his obituary.

All our love

Jesse & Kelly Hamlett

Kelly Hamlett - October 11, 2020 at 03:14 PM

TD

“ Bobby was always a comedian and will be missed at One Stop .Rest high on that mountain ,you will be missed RIP .

Tim & Lucinda Davis - October 11, 2020 at 03:04 PM

YH

“ Yvonne Hall sent a virtual gift in memory of Bobby Lee Rice



Yvonne Hall - October 11, 2020 at 02:48 PM

JB

“ *Joyce Bolen sent a virtual gift in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Joyce Bolen - October 11, 2020 at 02:47 PM

MM

“ *Bobby was a real comedian; always picking on himself, never putting anyone down. Worked with Bobby for years at BGF. Such a nice person. R I.P. Bobby. Thoughts and prayers for his family and friends.*



Mary Moses-Hicks - October 11, 2020 at 02:39 PM

GS

“ *Geraldine Shelton lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Geraldine Shelton - October 11, 2020 at 02:31 PM

CH

“ *Connie Payne Hall lit a candle in memory of Bobby Lee Rice*



Connie Payne Hall - October 11, 2020 at 02:12 PM

JM

“ So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Bobby was a class mate.

Jo Ann Martin - October 11, 2020 at 02:10 PM

D[

“ Dot Mitchell [Rorer] sent a virtual gift in memory of Bobby Lee Rice



Dot Mitchell [Rorer] - October 11, 2020 at 01:41 PM

JM

“ Rest in Peace with our Lord and Savior. Praying for Dawn and his family that God will give you strength and comfort during this time. See you later on. Bobby always had a story to tell. We will miss you. The Mitchell's.



Jennifer Mitchell - October 11, 2020 at 01:26 PM