

William Earl "Billy" Mayfield

March 23, 1937 - August 22, 2021

William Earl (Billy) Mayfield, was the fourth son of Sallie Will Maulsby Mayfield and William Thomas Mayfield. He was born on March 23, 1937, in the Goodsprings community of Giles County.

Billy was predeceased by his parents, his brothers Tom Mayfield and twins, Joe and Jim Mayfield, sister-in-laws Gertrude Kellum Mayfield and Edith Walls Mayfield, father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ernest and Birdie Harwell Williamson.

His school years began at Shorts School and lasted the sum of two weeks. From there, he attended school in Pulaski. The class of 1955 was one to remember. They formed lifetime friendships and stayed close their entire lives. Billy was very involved in athletics from an early age, shooting into a homemade hoop in the yard, to running relay at Field Day, playing football and basketball for the Giles County Bobcats. His love for baseball took him to dusty fields every weekend, where he would sometimes pitch three straight games. His shoulder finally succumbed to the strain. His peers would say had he known how to rest that arm, he could be wintering in Florida. Upon graduation from GCHS, Billy obtained a scholarship to play basketball at Martin College under Coach Kermit Smith. Many tales come from these days.

After two years at Martin, he decided to become a Forest Ranger and get

married. He had met the love of his life, Judy Williamson, at Coolsprings Church of Christ, two years prior.

After taking a trip to East Tennessee to view the cabin, firetower, and the fish hatchery, he made a decision that would guide him into 46 years of coaching—he always made the statement —“there was never a day I didn’t want to go to work.” So, wedding plans were delayed until he could finish his college career at Middle Tennessee State University, where he obtained his Plus 45 degree.

On August 6, 1960, a wedding took place, then graduation and a new job at Marshall County High School, as assistant football coach and science teacher. Later, he would become head football coach and boys basketball coach at Cornersville High School, and finally, to his alma mater, Giles County High School as assistant football coach and head girl’s basketball coach. He agreed to the girl’s position for one year but this turned into 38 years, which included many banners, state championships, runners-up, highly successful Camp of Winners basketball camps, assisted in coaching at his friend, Pat Summit’s Camp and coached the East/West All-Stars, where current Lady Vol coach Kelly Jolly-Harper was a player. Billy received many local, district, regional and state awards, 2 TSSAA State Championships – 1980-81 & 1981-82, 5 TSSAA Final Four appearances, and 1 TSSAA Class AA State Runner-Up – 2001-2002. He received District Coach of the Year honors 5 times (1980-81, 1981-82, 1989-90, 1992-93, 2001-02), and Tennessee Athletic Coaches Administration (TACA) Coach of the Year 3 times (1985, 1990, and 1993). He was inducted into the Martin College Hall of Fame in 2000 and the TSSAA Hall of Fame in 2003, named “Book of Golden Deeds Award” by a local club and the GCHS gymnasium bears his name alongside his beloved friend, Joe Hardin. Upon retirement Coach Mayfield won a total of 750 games.

Billy coached many young ladies, several of whom went on to receive college scholarships and played professionally. Billy also taught hundreds of students

as the Driver's Education instructor at GCHS. Upon retirement, his other love was raising registered Black Angus cattle and watching his grandchildren in the show ring. His children started this some fifty plus years before.

His legacy was — a Christian and member of the Church of Christ, loving husband, a doting father and grandfather, a wonderful, successful coach, teacher and friend. Billy was also a member of the National Guard and served for 7 years.

Billy is survived by his wife Judy, of 61 years, having been together 66 years, his son James Michael (Mike) Mayfield and wife Susan Marsh Mayfield, of Pulaski, his daughter Mariana Mayfield Hamilton and husband, Eric, of Knoxville, Tennessee, his adored five grandchildren Will Mayfield and Ben Mayfield, of Pulaski, Meredith Mayfield, of Knoxville, Sarah Hamilton of Atlanta and Jack Hamilton of Knoxville, and his nephew Paul Douglas Mayfield of Nashville.

Billy is also survived by a host of former players, students, friends, cousins, and neighbors. The family would like to thank the many devoted care givers and hospice nurses who lovingly cared for us all. Their kindness is deeply appreciated. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to GCHS girl's basketball or GCHS football programs or the charity of your choice. The visitation will be from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm Thursday, August 26, 2021, at Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home. The funeral will follow at 2:00pm in the chapel of Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home, burial will follow in Giles Memory Gardens. Bennett-May & Pierce in charge of the arrangements for William Earl (Billy) Mayfield.

Cemetery Details

Giles Memory Garden

140 Bethel Road
Pulaski, TN

Previous Events

Funeral

AUG **26**. 2:00 PM.

Chapel Of Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home

Tribute Wall

MW

“ Coach Mayfield, you changed my life the day in driver's Ed class when you told me I could sign up for 4th period basketball the next year. I can't imagine high school without having been a part of girls basketball. I am so thankful for all the wonderful memories. You took care of us like we were your own kids. We were all blessed to have such a great Christian man like you to learn from and lead us. Sending love and prayers to Mrs. Mayfield, Mike, Marianna and all of your sweet family. I love you all! ❤️
Michelle Solomon Williams

Michelle Solomon Williams - August 26, 2021 at 10:48 AM

LB

“ Leigh Brymer lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield



Leigh Brymer - August 26, 2021 at 10:38 AM

LB

“ Judy love u have not seen u in a few. But u r in our prayers billy was one of a kind a very just and up right person always worked so hard if u need me for anything call me 19315054212 it 19314520310 love u always Leigh and family

Leigh Brymer - August 26, 2021 at 10:36 AM

CG

“ CLINT AND ASHLEY KING AND GIRLS lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield



CLINT AND ASHLEY KING AND GIRLS - August 26, 2021 at 09:51 AM

SA

“ Sheila Anderson lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield



Sheila Anderson - August 25, 2021 at 09:24 PM



“ 69 files added to the album Life Tributes



Bennett - May & Pierce Funeral Home and Crematory - August 25, 2021 at 03:27 PM

TF

“ On behalf of the South Central Basketball Officials Association, Mr. Ray Moffett, Mr. James Reed, Mr. Bret Smith and Mr. Thomas Frierson , along with present and past basketball officials express our deepest sympathy to the family of Coach Billy Mayfield. He was a great coach, teacher and person. Above all, a child of God. May the God of Heaven bless and keep you this day and in the days ahead. Lovingly submitted, Thomas Frierson

Thomas Frierson - August 25, 2021 at 09:36 AM

B'

“ mr. mayfield was a good coach, good teacher and above all "A ROEMODEL". he will be missed.

bobby c. taylor (class of '72) - August 24, 2021 at 06:15 PM

DH

“ Donna Hale sent a virtual gift in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield



Donna Hale - August 24, 2021 at 02:03 PM

MW

“ Melanie Tate White lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield



Melanie Tate White - August 24, 2021 at 10:22 AM

MW

He was a truly special person who lived a giving life-there were so many kids lives he touched and made a lasting difference. Deepest sympathy and condolences to the family.

Melanie Tate White - August 24, 2021 at 10:26 AM

NJ

Neil Jobe remembers coon hunting with Billy while attending Martin College. Sympathy and condolences to Judy and the rest of the family and friends. He was a very respectable man.

Neil Jobe - August 26, 2021 at 07:39 AM

EP

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Edward Parsons - August 24, 2021 at 01:51 AM

SM

“ *It is with a heavy heart that I submit this memory of one of the greatest men I have ever known. Not only did he teach me about sports but he also taught me about life. With that been said, to the Mayfield family, I extend my deepest condolences for your lost. I share your pain and I pray that the Holy Spirit will comfort each of you during and beyond this sad occasion. May God be with each one of you. Once again, Sorry for your lost.*

Samuel M.Haynes - August 23, 2021 at 06:22 PM

HW

Mrs Mayfield, I'm so sorry for your loss, I was just thinking about y'all in church Sunday and wondering how everything was.

Harriet Webb - August 23, 2021 at 06:26 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Mayfield passing. I looked going to the ballgames and watching him coach. My dad was a friend of his and now he is in heaven with Dad too. Praying for all of the family.

Brenda Davis - August 23, 2021 at 05:55 PM



Meant loved

Brenda Davis - August 23, 2021 at 05:56 PM



“ Lit a candle in memory of Coach Mayfield. He sure love each and every student that he taught. This also goes out to his loving wife Judy and family. May God give this family peace and comfort at this difficult time of sadness 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏 Ruth and JC Stewart



Ruth Stewart - August 23, 2021 at 05:24 PM



He was a Special person that always had a kind word, also so Thankful for anything that was done for him. Love and Sympathy to his life partner and wife Judy.

Mary Daniel - August 23, 2021 at 05:48 PM



“ Coach Mayfield was an fantastic coach for GCHS(Bobcats) 🏀🏆🏀🏆🏀🏆 Ruth Francis Stewart



Ruth Stewart - August 23, 2021 at 05:14 PM

NF

“ *Nikki Foster lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield*



Nikki Foster - August 23, 2021 at 04:09 PM

BR

“ *You left with me memories that I look back on to this day with a smile. Godspeed Coach.*

Billy Rolin - August 23, 2021 at 03:56 PM

LB

“ *So sorry to hear this. Please give my condolences to Judy and Susan and their families. Lissa Burton*

lissa Lindsay Burton-Wingo - August 23, 2021 at 03:51 PM

SS

“ *RIP Coach Mayfield. My thoughts and prayers to your family.*

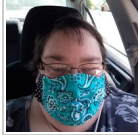
Susan Shivas - August 23, 2021 at 03:42 PM

DH

“ *David, Betty, Kevin And Heather Hopper lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield*



David, Betty, Kevin and Heather Hopper - August 23, 2021 at 03:22 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a great teacher and will be missed.* ”



Shannon Garner - August 23, 2021 at 03:21 PM

DH

“ *David, Betty, Kevin And Heather Hopper lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield* ”



David, Betty, Kevin and Heather Hopper - August 23, 2021 at 03:19 PM

LH

“ *Lynn Hargrove lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield* ”



Lynn Hargrove - August 23, 2021 at 03:06 PM

LG

“ *Lori Gentry lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Billy" Mayfield* ”



lori gentry - August 23, 2021 at 02:48 PM

EC

“ so sorry to learn of your loss.He was a good coach&neighbor. He had a great laugh.

Earnest Cooper - August 23, 2021 at 02:41 PM

SA

“ Coach, you will never be forgotten. With your encouragement hard work attitude, I was given a path to success. From the first day you pulled me into practice, there was no being average again. You were the one who helped me to see the potential in myself and Yes, I was taller. 😊
So many memories of good memories.
Love you Coach!

Sheila Anderson - August 23, 2021 at 02:31 PM

LN

“ Coach Mayfield was a very caring man. He was very considerate of others and met no strangers. He will be missed especially by the students who knew and loved him. Thank you Coach.



LaVerne Nolen - August 23, 2021 at 02:05 PM

GW

“ So sorry to hear of Billy's passing. We will be keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Ginger and Lester Wheeler - August 23, 2021 at 01:57 PM

SW

“ 9 and 3 Mr. White, not 10 till and 20 after. Issued me my first drivers license. Wonderful teacher and a good man. RIP coach and prayers for your family.

Steve White - August 23, 2021 at 01:44 PM