



Dr James "Bud" Dillard

May 5, 2019

Dr. James G. "Bud" Dillard, 82, of Muscle Shoals, Alabama died Sunday May 5th after a brief illness.

Visitation will be 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, May 8 at Morrison Funeral Home chapel, Tuscumbia, Alabama, with the funeral service to follow. Burial will be in Sheffield Oakwood Cemetery. Friends and family members will be pallbearers.

James was born November, 30, 1936 in Winfield, Alabama where he grew up, and graduated from high school. He was predeceased by his parents, Grady W. Dillard and Flora Tucker Dillard. He is survived by his wife, Mary Frances Dillard; sons, William Edward Dillard, Anniston, Alabama; James Steven Dillard and wife, Carrie of Collierville, Tennessee; daughter, Pamela Susane Rhea of Fairhope, Alabama; five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Dr. Dillard attended the University of North Alabama, University of Maryland and earned his B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University. He began his career as an agricultural economist with the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1963. He returned to Mississippi State in 1968 as an agricultural economist and associate professor. Economic research in support of Mississippi's beef cattle industry was a focus of his work at that time. In 1975, he rejoined TVA for a period of five years before returning to Mississippi State in 1981 as a professor and economist in the Department of Agricultural Economics. His service included being interim department head in 1993. In addition to his teaching duties, he was active in research related to improving Mississippi's catfish industry. Market development for farm-raised catfish was the focus of his research. He was known among his family and friends as a successful fisherman and cooked many fish and hushpuppy dinners. He enjoyed having a garden and during his earlier years he served as a Boy Scout leader and member of a community service organization.

The family respectfully requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to a charity of your choice or the Dr. James G. "Bud" Dillard Endowed Scholarship, Agricultural Economics Department, P.O. Box 5187, Mississippi State University, MS 39762.

Cemetery

Oakwood Cemetery, Sheffield

3523 Jackson Hwy
Sheffield, AL,

Events

MAY **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

8

Morrison Funeral Home -Tuscumbia
825 N Main Street P.O. Box 513, Tuscumbia, AL, US,
35674

MAY **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

8

Morrison Funeral Home -Tuscumbia
825 N Main Street P.O. Box 513, Tuscumbia, AL, US,
35674

Comments



“ Mary Frances,

Cary and I were saddened to read of Bud's passing. We couldn't express our admiration of him any better than Wallace and Fred did in their comments. He was certainly a quality individual. I have such fond memories of his visits to our office in Lloyd-Ricks and the "wisdom" he was always ready to share. His interest and concern for whatever was going on in one's life was genuine. I remember on one such visit, I mentioned an unusual issue I was having with a vehicle. Nothing would do but for him to get on the phone right then and get me in touch with the person who would solve the problem.

We can't think of Bud without thinking of you and what a good team you were. I'm also reminded of mine and your affection for fiest dogs. I still have the drawing you made of one of my special pets. It still hangs in our home. We treasure the friendship we had with you two and pray for peace and comfort as you go through the days and months ahead.

Cary and Sylvia Sutphin

Sylvia & Cary Sutphin - May 15 at 10:26 AM



“ Dear Mary Frances & family,

We were saddened to read this morning about Bud's passing. We remember our pleasant past association, especially at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bill & HelenSue Parrish

Bill & HelenSue Parrish - May 08 at 09:55 PM



“ Dr. Dillard or Bud was my dissertation research adviser at the MSU Department of Agricultural Economics. He guided me in all phases of my dissertation research.

Selection of committee. The proposal, Funding from MAFES. Secondary data collection. Survey of 15 catfish farmers in East Mississippi. Analysis of data. Oral defense. Publication.

We presented the results at the Catfish Farmers of America annual meeting in Nashville, TN in 1997. I have learned a lot from Bud. He was a good friend, a mentor, and an excellent Agricultural economist.

Our heartfelt condolence and prayers to the family, especially to Mary Frances.

Ben Posadas
Biloxi, MS

Benedict Posadas - May 08 at 01:51 PM



“ Dear Mary Frances and family, I just read of Bud's passing this morning in the Starkville Daily News -- and felt the most sadness I have in a long time... Bud was`a dear friend since we were both Masters students in Ag Econ in the early '60's.We were neighbors in Station Apartments (long gone), fishing and hunting buddies, and I was always happy to be around Bud. He was an outstanding fisherman, cooker of fish and hushpuppies, and all-around guy!! I have read the laudatory comments of Wallace Killcreas, and Tommy Foster -- and I agree whole-heartedly!!! For many years I have felt your good influence and support for Bud, and understand what a blessing you were to him. As you remember all the good times and happy days, I pray that you will find comfort and peace, enjoying the legacy that bud shared with so many. Fred Tyner..

Fred Tyner - May 08 at 09:39 AM



“ Department of Agricultural Economics' Family-MSU purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Dr James "Bud" Dillard.



Department of Agricultural Economics' Family-MSU - May 07 at 03:23 PM



“ Bud was a kind, fun loving, and very smart Professional. He would help anyone if it was in his power to do so. Although he was a well-educated Economist, he had feelings for the "little man", and those who worked hard for their living. He supported labor unions (unlike many of his fellow Economists), and was not afraid to say so. He was a very good writer, and supported his views with facts.

On the personal side, he was an avid and very successful fisherman, and would always tell you where he caught the fish (Right Thru thu Mouth!). We all loved Bud at work, and will remember him forever.

Mary Frances, we share your grief in the loss of Bud. Thank you for being the wonderful wife for him that you have been all these years. Wallace Killcreas

Wallace Killcreas - May 07 at 11:04 AM



“ Love - Misty Ann Monge purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr James "Bud" Dillard.



Love - Misty Ann Monge - May 07 at 11:00 AM



“ Mary Frances, we are so sorry about Bud's passing and will pray for your family's comfort and healing.

Brookdale Shoals Senior Living/Stephanie Flanagan

Stephanie Flanagan - May 07 at 10:25 AM



“ I'm full of James Grady-isms and episodes that have been scrolling thru my head since hearing of his passing. Those are memories I treasure. Bud was the major reason I found a professional position and relocated to the Shoals! Bud was a mentor to me ;not only professionally but also in community involvement, in local personal contacts, in the ways and politics of TVA, and last, but not least, in fishing the Tennessee River. May God grant his soul eternal rest and comfort his family on his passing!

Tom Foster - May 07 at 09:44 AM



“ Bud was a colleague and a friend. Especially when I was a new assistant professor, Bud was always willing to share a word of advice or encouragement . . . or just a funny story. My condolences to Mary Frances and the family. Barry Barnett

Barry Barnett - May 07 at 04:41 AM