



## Michael Bennett

June 11, 1972 - February 27, 2009

Ripley, Mississippi--- C. Michael Bennett 36, of Ripley, died Friday, February 27, 2009, on his farm as the result of injuries sustained in an accident. He was born in Tupelo, MS June 11, 1972 to Mike and Gloria Eaker Bennett.

Michael grew up in New Albany where he was a member of First Baptist Church and Participated in all children and youth activities including Bible Drill, Youth Choir and several mission trips. He earned the Eagle Scout Award through Troop 222 sponsored by First Baptist Church. He attended the New Albany City Schools Kindergarten through 12th grade, graduating with the class of 1990. In high school Michael excelled in basketball, being named to All Union County and All District, as well as being selected to the North All Star Team and participated in the Coca-Cola All Star Classic in Jackson.

After graduation from high school, he was signed to an athletic scholarship with Delta State University and was a member of the 1992 Gulf South Conference Championship team, which advanced to the Sweet Sixteen in post-season play. Michael graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1995.

Michael met the Love of his life, Jill Grisham, they were married October 5, 1996.

Michael was a member of First Baptist Church in Ripley, where he worked with the Upward Basketball program as a coach and a member of the Board of Directors. He coached Little League teams through the Ripley Little League program for many years. He was vice-president and chief operating officer of Grisham Asphalt and Paving Company, Inc. in Ripley. He was co-owner of Pine View Farms with his father-in-law.

He is survived by his wife, Jill Grisham Bennett; two sons, Nolan Michael Bennett and Judson Craig Bennett, one daughter Sophia Lindy Bennett, all of the home; his parents Mike and Gloria Bennett of New Albany; one sister, D'Anna Bennett White (Brock) of Jackson; two brothers, Jonathan Bennett of Vicksburg and Matthew Bennett of Madison, AL; three nieces, River Calsita White, Sarah Walter, Ellie Walter; four nephews, Colby Walter, Corbin Walter, James Walter, John Thomas Walter; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Dennis and Lynda Grisham of Dumas, two brothers-in-law, Tommy Walter (Leslie) of Ripley and Bill Walter of Jackson.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Broadus and Vanna Lou Bell Eaker and Charlie and Clytie Smith Bennett:

Pallbearers will be Jeffrey Cook, John Stanford, Brit Chapman, Matt Childs, Matt Duncan, Matthew Goolsby, Jay Griffin, Matt Griffin, Bill Melton:

Honorary pallbearers will be Brent McBride, Chris Pannell, Bob Glover, Marty Hurt, Cameron Wilkerson, Sean Akins, Phil Sparks, Ray Yates and his cousins:

To send flowers to the family of Michael Bennett, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Bennett*

October 05, 2023 at 12:14 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you while you try to make sense of this terrible tragedy. May you find comfort in the wonderful legacy he has left for you all. God bless you all.*

**Malcolm and Jane (Graves) Kuykendall** - March 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jill, i am Paula's sister and want you to know that i am still praying for you and love you much. I am praying for Michael's mom too. love you...*

**joy smith** - March 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jill, You are in our prayers. Love Richie, Tina Sanford*

**Richie&Tina Sanford** - March 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jill and Family,  
We are so sorry for your loss. We will keep your family in our Prayers.  
Jon Mark Self and Family..*

**Jon Mark and Heather Self** - March 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ We did not know Michael personally but would like the family to know we have had you in our thoughts and prayers and will continue to do so.

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**Terry and Janie Jumper** - March 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Jill & Children,

*I am so sorry for your lose. We will miss him coaching at the Ripley Park. Coaches like Michael are hard to find. Michael was great with the kids and always easy to get along with. A great guy who I will always remember. May God Bless you and your family.*

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**Angelia McKenzie** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ JILL, MY PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR SWEET CHILDREN.

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**MITZI NEWBY** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SZ

“ Dear Jill,  
You and your precious children are in my thoughts every second of every day.  
Suzy

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**Suzy McCullough Zimmerman** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ I don't know where to begin! I knew Michael ever since I was in Kindergarten--needless to say I grew up with him. My heart and mind are so sad at this time. He was an incredible guy growing up and was trully of good stature. Michael will be trully missed. I never knew you Jill, but I know that you and your children are in my thoughts and prayers. Michael was well respected in school and could play some basketball!!!:) He will be trully missed with a sore and heavy heart. I have come to realize that God needed another "strong and steady tree" for his forest. May God Bless You and your family during this time of loss.

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**Amanda West** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ You and your family have been on our mind since we heard about your loss. May God comfort you and keep you strong in this difficult time.

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**Andy & Paula Sullivan** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ I graduated from High School with Michael. He was such a really sweet guy. He was kind to all who knew him. It breaks my heart to hear such horrible news of his death. God bless you, Jill, and your family. I can not imagine the pain you must feel. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. From what I've heard, he continued being a great guy and father. He was a role model for others and well-respected. I am glad to have known him.

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**Mellissa Decker Kitchens** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *Michael was always a person you could count on for a smile. I will always remember him as someone who was friendly to everyone. I am so sorry for your loss.*

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**Janet Chism Thompson** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I pray that you find comfort and peace during this difficult time.*

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**Katie Dunn** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ *I am a friend of Matthew's. I am very sorry for the loss of such a great family member. I am keeping all of you in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Kyle Cullen** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *I am sorry about the loss of Michael. You and your family are in my prayers.*  
*Love,*  
*Elizabeth Cagle*

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**Elizabeth Cagle** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *Jill, Nolan, Judd, Sophia, Dennis, & Lynda,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all as you go through this  
hard time. May God give you strength and hold you all close. If you  
need anything, we are just down the road. Don't hesitate to call.  
We love you,  
Colby, Abby, Gabe, & Gavin*

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**Colby, Abby, Gabe & Gavin Roberts** - March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *Jill and children we are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and  
prayers are with you yesterday, today and tommorrow. God Bless  
You!*

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**Mike & Donna (Jackson) Lindsey** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *Jill, You and Your family are in my prayers! Sherry*

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**Sherry Crawford** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *I knew Michael from First Baptist Church in New Albany many years  
ago. I am so sorry to hear about your loss. I pray that God will give  
you peace knowing that Michael was gone to be with his Lord.*

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**Laurel Dunlap Peterman** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *Jill, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May God  
give each you the peace and comfort today and the days to come.*

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**Mary Walker** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all..*

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**Darrell & Stephanie Jackson** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS*

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**DANNY AND ANNETTE WITT** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RI

“ *I graduated from high school with Michael. He was a good man then, and from all accounts just kept getting better. A man of God and a tribute to his family. I write this with a heavy heart. You have my deepest sympathy, and I pray that the Lord will wrap His arms around you to comfort and keep you.*

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**Rob Ivy** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ *Jill and family,  
I know words are not enough at this time. We are deeply sorry for you loss and our prayers are with you all. May God comfort you at this time. Rob and Cheryl Hodges*

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**Rob and Cheryl Hodges** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ *To the Bennett Family - I am so sorry for your loss. Michael was a sweet guy - and I know he is with the Lord. There is hope in that. I will keep your family in my prayers.*

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**Barbara Dunlap Knapp** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Jill,  
I am sorry about the loss of Michael. You and your family are in my prayers. If you need anything please let us know.*

*Love,  
Johnnye McCafferty*

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**Johnnye McCafferty** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *My mother and I, Jean Syms, would like to send our condolences. I am heart broken by the news and will keep you and your children in my prayers. My words don't seem to be enough but I hope you stay strong. God will help you all.*

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**Donna Syms Morales** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *Jill and family, We are so sorry for your loss, may God hold you and keep you through the days to come, you have been in our prayers and will continue to be. I wish someone could say something to ease your pain, but we know God is the only one who can provide the comfort that can heal your broken hearts.*

*In Christ, Mike & Penny Holcomb*

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**Mike & Penny Holcomb** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ Jill,  
Shelia and I were so saddened to hear the news about Michael.  
Please know that we are praying for you and your sweet children.  
Our prayers are that God will provide for all your needs and sustain  
you during this most difficult time in your life. We trust HIM for all  
that you need.  
Though we haven't seen you in a number of years, we still think of  
you often.  
In Christ's Love,  
Tim Tolleson

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**Tim Tolleson** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.  
  
Lannie, Rhonda,  
Amber, Andrew & Austin Hopper

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**Lannie, Rhonda, Amber, Andrew & Austin Hopper** - March 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Please know that we are praying for your family.

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**Scott, Michelle and Marlana Curle** - February 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ We are sorry for your loss may God be with you now and the days  
to come. Katie goes to school with Nolan and is also very sorry for  
him and his siblings. May God bless you and your family.

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**Jimmy Wayne and Debbie Davis** - February 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ We just wanted to let you know that we are praying for your family and that we are so sorry for your loss. Stephen wanted to tell Nolan that he is sorry about his dad, and he hopes that he gets to feeling better. If ya'll need anything, just let us know.

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**Tommy, Shannon, Stephen, Ava, and Oliver Heavener** - February 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ Jill, Nolan, Judd, and Sophie,  
you are all in my thoughts and prayers now and the weeks to come.  
Love you all ,  
Kim, Mike Tyra Anna, Abby, and  
Allison Burks

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**Kim Garrett Tyra** - February 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Jill and family,  
We are praying for you and lifting all of you up to Him in prayer. He will sustain you through this time. Mr. Dennis, you are definitely in our thoughts and prayers. May God be with each of you.

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**Scott & Crystal Graves** - February 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM