



Mr. William R. Adams

September 2, 1967 - February 27, 2026

With heavy hearts, we announce that William Rodney Adams, affectionately known as “Hot Rod” and “Big Red,” departed this life on Friday, February 27, 2026, at his mother’s residence in Johnson City, Tennessee. He was born on September 2, 1967, in Kingsport, Tennessee.

William was a proud graduate of Science Hill High School and went on to receive his associate degree from Northeast State Community College. Always striving to grow and better himself, he recently attended East Tennessee State University, where he was pursuing studies in Business Management. Throughout his life, he worked in several roles, including serving as a TSSAA official, a ride-share driver, and a dedicated food service specialist. He was also a faithful member of Friendship Baptist Church, where he found fellowship and spiritual strength.

William truly lived life in a way that inspired everyone around him. He loved watching sports, spending peaceful days fishing, and relaxing with a good movie. He was best known for his infectious sense of humor, uplifting spirit, and the way he could light up any room he entered. His laughter was contagious, his positivity was powerful, and his outlook on life was an example to all who knew him. William had a remarkable gift for making people feel valued, encouraged, and at ease. He didn’t just live life — he embraced it fully and touched countless hearts along the way.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence Adams; his paternal grandparents, William and Katherine Adams; and his maternal grandparents, Artemis and Rosa Foster.

William leaves to cherish his precious memory his beloved children, Rashad, Keyshaun, and Gavin; his cherished grandchildren, Jackson and Jordan Adams; his loving mother, Sharon Adams; and his devoted siblings, Norma Faye Heatherly, Aundrea Adams, and Aimee Adams. He also leaves behind his nephew, Skylar Adams; his honorary brother, John Birchette; his dear aunts, Jeanie Lee, Thelma Williams, and Barbara Adams; and his uncles, Paul Adams, Charles Adams, Wayne Foster, and Ruben Lewis Adams, along with a host of extended family members, friends, and all whose lives he touched.

William's laughter, kindness, and vibrant spirit will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. His legacy of joy, strength, and positivity will continue to live on through everyone he inspired.

Preparations are being made for a Celebration of Life to be held on March 21st. Additional details will be shared once arrangements are finalized.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to a local kidney foundation in his honor.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR **21**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Carver Recreation Center
322 W. Market St.
Johnson City, TN 37604

Tribute Wall

LB

“ *Lynn & Rayetta Bachman lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Lynn & Rayetta Bachman - June 29 at 01:24 PM

AT

“ *RIP, Rodney. I just found out about your passing. We had such wonderful years together laughing and doing games together. The struggle on this side is over. Your infectious joy will always remain. A. T.*



Arnold Thomas - March 23 at 04:57 PM

RF

“ *Rich Foster purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Mr. William R. Adams.*



Rich Foster - March 20 at 05:18 PM

CW

“ I pray for peace and comfort for you Sharon and family. Rodney is a dear friend and will always be remembered for his passion for the game of baseball, softball, and basketball and those whom he touched in his umpiring and referee career!! LOVE YOU ALL!! ❤️🌹❤️



Cindy Wilhoit - March 15 at 05:04 PM

RS

“ MAY GOD STRENGTHEN YOUR FAMILY DURING THIS TIME. MY SINCERE CONDOLENCES AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY.



Regina Diane Smith - March 06 at 08:21 AM

ML

“ Mary Latham lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Mary Latham - March 06 at 06:04 AM

JL

“ Julia Anderson. Letcher lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Julia Anderson. Letcher - March 05 at 08:48 AM

CT

“ *Connie Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Connie Thompson - March 04 at 10:14 PM

SW

“ *Steve And Susan Wagner lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Steve And Susan Wagner - March 04 at 02:20 PM

GE

“ *May the God of all comfort be with you at this time.*

Gwen Evans



Gwen Evans - March 04 at 11:57 AM

CD

“ *Cheryl Dyer lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Cheryl Dyer - March 04 at 10:39 AM

GC

“ He was so nice to me and husband, when we came in to Bojangles. He was always smile and funny.



Ginger Campbell - March 03 at 07:32 PM

JJ

“ Jaymon Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



jaymon johnson - March 03 at 08:47 AM

CY

“ Curtis Young lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Curtis Young - March 02 at 08:22 PM

AP

“ AP lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



AP - March 02 at 07:53 PM

JN

“ *Jean Neal lit a candle in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams*



Jean Neal - March 02 at 07:09 PM

LB

“ *Lynn & Rayetta Bachman*



Lynn & Rayetta Bachman - March 02 at 06:39 PM

MH

“ *Mary J Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams*



Mary J Harris - March 02 at 05:28 PM

VR

“ *Van Rollins sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams*



Van Rollins - March 02 at 04:43 PM

GB

“ G.L. And Trish Bristol sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



G.L. and Trish Bristol - March 02 at 02:23 PM



“ Linda Workman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Linda Workman - March 02 at 11:47 AM

RM

“ I worked Softball and Basketball with Rodney and he was a man of God. We will miss you Rodney.

Ron McEwen - March 02 at 11:27 AM

RF

“ So sorry for your loss! Miller family

Rebecca felix - March 02 at 11:14 AM

WR

“ Winfred Reid lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



winfred reid - March 02 at 10:58 AM

WR

“ *Rodney will be missed, he would always stop and talk to me, praying for his family.*

winfred reid - March 02 at 10:57 AM

PL

“ *Pep Livingston lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Pep Livingston - March 02 at 10:54 AM

FL

“ *Frazier Lyons lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Frazier Lyons - March 02 at 09:36 AM

ML

“ *Sorry to see the passing of Rodney. He was such a bright light of a Man. Always enjoyed officiating with him, he brought that smile and that attitude to the games and it rubbed off on everyone. I now have an extra Umpire spirit to carry with me on the field going forward. He is now "safe at home". Thank you for your friendship Rodney. Marty Lowry in Bristol.*

Marty Lowry - March 02 at 09:11 AM

NA

“ So very sorry for your loss. I took care of Rodney for a long time in dialysis. He was always a fun guy to be around.

Nancy Carr

Nancy - March 02 at 08:34 AM

MR

“ *Mary Rollins lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Mary Rollins - March 02 at 08:27 AM

DM

“ *Darrell & Janice Murphy lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Darrell & Janice Murphy - March 02 at 08:25 AM

VS

“ *Praying for you all*



Vanessa Stephens - March 02 at 08:03 AM

BH

“ *My condolences and prayers to the family.
May the God of comfort and peace surround
the family.* ”



Benita Hopson - March 02 at 07:32 AM

HJ

“ *Harriet Jordan-Rand lit a candle in memory of
Mr. William R. Adams* ”



Harriet Jordan-Rand - March 02 at 06:27 AM

PR

“ *Paulette Robinson lit a candle in memory of
Mr. William R. Adams* ”



Paulette Robinson - March 02 at 05:26 AM

PR

“ *Paulette Robinson sent a virtual gift in memory
of Mr. William R. Adams* ”



Paulette Robinson - March 02 at 05:26 AM

WH

“ Wende Howard lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Wende Howard - March 02 at 05:11 AM

SA

“ Rod gave me the most amazing human being, and every single day together we laugh and laughed hard. Our love was like a fairy tail . Till it wasn't any more but or friendship will always be. Thank you or loving me



Salina Allen-Parker - March 02 at 03:03 AM

KC

“ Kentrell Charles lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Kentrell Charles - March 02 at 02:54 AM

CA

“ Crystal Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



crystal anderson - March 02 at 02:46 AM

JN

“ Jean Neal lit a candle in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams



Jean Neal - March 02 at 01:36 AM

LL

“ Lou Locke lit a candle in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams



Lou Locke - March 01 at 11:39 PM

PD

“ Pauline Douglas lit a candle in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams



Pauline Douglas - March 01 at 11:26 PM

RR

“ Ron Ray sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr.
William R. Adams



Ron Ray - March 01 at 11:03 PM

CB

“ Carol Bradley lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Carol Bradley - March 01 at 10:24 PM

MC

“ Marvin & Pam Cain lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Marvin & Pam Cain - March 01 at 09:41 PM

SN

“ Rodney was my Good Friend in whom I Got to Umpire many Games With. I learned a lot through his Wisdom. Rest Easy my Friend until we meet again. Steve Nelson



Steve Nelson - March 01 at 09:13 PM



“ So sorry for your loss.. your family are in my thoughts and prayers 🙏❤️



Johnetta Bachman - March 01 at 09:13 PM

EV

“ *Estelle Vaughan lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Estelle Vaughan - March 01 at 09:10 PM

CR

“ *Cecil, Gene, Eddie and I send our sincere love and prayers to all the family. May God send His Comfort to each of you during this difficult time. May precious memories warm your hearts and know that God cares and it is His Love that will give you strength.*



Clara Rutledge - March 01 at 09:06 PM

SB

“ *Sylvia & Kenny Bachman lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Sylvia & Kenny Bachman - March 01 at 08:52 PM

RF

“ *Renea Hall & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Renea Hall & Family - March 01 at 08:28 PM

KM

“Katherine Madison lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Katherine Madison - March 01 at 08:23 PM

TD

“T.R. Dunn lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



T.R. Dunn - March 01 at 08:22 PM

TD

Praying for my classmate's family.

T.R. Dunn - March 01 at 08:22 PM



“Geno Russaw lit a candle in memory of Mr. William R. Adams



Geno Russaw - March 01 at 08:01 PM



You will truly be missed but never forgotten brother Red! 🙏🙏❤️❤️

Geno Russaw - March 01 at 08:02 PM

GR

“ *Gina Rhyans sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Gina Rhyans - March 01 at 07:12 PM

VP

“ *Viola Patton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William R. Adams*



Viola Patton - March 01 at 06:37 PM