



Craig Gardner

July 9, 1974 - August 6, 2016

Mr. Steven "Craig" Gardner, age 42, passed away on August 6, 2016. A Service will be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 2:30 PM in the Williams Funeral Home Chapel in Milledgeville. A private burial will take place in Crest Lawn Cemetery in Eatonton.

The Family will receive friends at Williams Funeral Home on Tuesday from 1PM until the service hour.

Mr. Gardner was a native of Atlanta and lived in Eatonton for a number of years before moving to Milledgeville 4 years ago. He worked for Southern Pipe and Supply and was attending Northside Baptist Church. Mr. Gardner was preceded in death by his mother, Sherry Hill Gardner, and grandmother, Lois Hill.

Craig is survived by his son Jackson Gardner; Father, Steven "Steve" Paul Gardner (Lee) of Navarre, FL; Sisters, Taska Gardner Clayton (Ted) of Magnolia Springs, AL, and Janda Gardner Gray (Billy) of Warner Robins; Step Brother, Stephen Raney (Reese) of Memphis; Step Sister, Shannon Porter of Helena, AL; Aunt, Connie Hill Redfern of Milledgeville; Cousin, Jason Redfern (Lyndi) of Savannah; Grandparents, Jean (Leon) Yawn of Warner Robins; and over 100 aunts, uncles, and cousins also survive.

Flowers accepted and for those who wish Memorial Contributions may be made for the benefit of Jackson Gardner c/o Robins Federal Credit Union.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 9. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Williams Funeral Home & Crematory - Milledgeville
1670 N. Jefferson St.
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-2148
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

Service

AUG 9. 2:30 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

PB

“ Priscilla Babb lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner



Priscilla Babb - August 22, 2016 at 08:47 PM

PF

“ My condolences to the family on the loss of your loved one. The sting of death is very painful. But when you throw all your pain on God (Psalm 83:18), He will comfort you and carry that pain for you. So draw close to God in prayer and He will draw close to you in return.(James 4:8)

pfl - August 17, 2016 at 11:41 AM

TG

“ I'm not good with this... you've been on my mind non-stop and I wish I could see your smile once again. You were an amazing person, Craig Gardner... such a sweet soul. And you'll truly be missed. Fly high, my friend... and we'll all see you soon.

Troy sends his love as well! <3 Love you!

Tiffany Greene - August 10, 2016 at 07:41 AM

SR

“ *Shelia Readdy sent a virtual gift in memory of Craig Gardner*



shelia readdy - August 09, 2016 at 11:12 PM

SR

“ *I was jackson's step=grandma and craigs friend. This was such a blow to me but he now gets to see my love mike jacksons poppop in heaven. I will miss craig as if I were a blood relative he was great.*

shelia readdy - August 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

 Nikki Readdy

“ *Not only are you the father to our precious son Jack Jack...but you were my best friend, family no matter what. After everything we have been through you never uttered a bad word about me and loved me even when I couldn't love myself. Jackson never heard us argue once...we used to joke how we could teach a class on how to get along with an ex. I loved you then and I love you still. I have big shoes to fill, but not a day will go by that Jackson won't be praying for his daddy and until my last breath I will keep my son's daddy's memory alive no matter what!!!! Kiss Sherry and my Dad for me. Me and Jackson love you and don't you worry that little boy will be loved and taken care of forever. May you ride in on wings of angels my love. We love you always and forever!*

Nikki Readdy - August 09, 2016 at 10:37 PM

TG

Such an amazing message. I've held my emotions back since getting the news; however this opened the flood gates. We don't know each other, but I couldn't be more impressed with your love for Craig and keeping his memory alive for Jackson.

I hope you find peace, Nikki... you had something with him that no one else did... <3

Tiffany Greene - August 10, 2016 at 07:39 AM

 Nikki Readdy

Thank you...we were past that "in love" place...he truly was my very best friend! My rock! The only person who would still speak to me when it felt like the world was against me...I just still can't believe... Everyone please keep our son in your prayers!

Nikki Readdy - August 10, 2016 at 08:00 AM



“ *My condolences to his family and friends!
I got to know Craig through Southern Pipe.*

Lester NeSmith - August 09, 2016 at 07:31 PM

SB

“ *So sad to hear about this. May God wrap his arms around you and your family and help lil Jax through this tough time. R.I.P old friend. You will truly be missed but not forgotten. ❤️*



Stacy Ballard - August 09, 2016 at 07:19 PM

SB

“ So sad to hear about this. May God wrap his arms around you and your family and help lil Jax through this tough time. R.I.P old friend. You will truly be missed but not forgotten. ❤️



Stacy Ballard - August 09, 2016 at 07:18 PM

SG

“ I remember Craig most for the big hoopty Laura and I rode in back from Panama City for our senior trip. Peace be with you, my friend! Sending prayers for the family. We never know why things like this happen but I know someone who does. (I could only find a ha graduation picture of Craig but great memories of a fun loving guy.)



Shelley Beaver Gawel - August 09, 2016 at 05:28 PM



Michelle Burnette

“ We have had many memories together. You always made time to come to kylees birthday parties. I think we always got along because you were silly like me. You never would let me live it down busting my face on a rock in the river. You will be missed . Til I see you again. Love you buddy

Michelle Burnette - August 09, 2016 at 05:10 PM

EF

“ Sending our love and concern for our precious neighbors, Leon and Jean, and their extended Gardner family, and to all the loved ones of Craig. We know that God will bless you with a peace that passes all understanding in the weeks and months to come. HE will comfort and guide you. Every one of you are in our thoughts and prayers with love. We are thinking of you from "across the pines".

Eugene and Fay - August 09, 2016 at 03:57 PM

RR

“ Janda and Taska,
Words cannot express how sorry I am for you and your family! I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time! I love you, Regina Ray

Regina Ray - August 09, 2016 at 03:17 PM

DG

“ Craig you will always be in my heart. I love and miss you my friend.



Dustin Goddard - August 09, 2016 at 02:43 PM

LG

“ Lori Goddard sent a virtual gift in memory of Craig Gardner



Lori Goddard - August 09, 2016 at 02:35 PM

TR

“ *Our condolences to Janda and family. LOVE you. The Rodda's Daniel and Tara*

Tara Rodda - August 09, 2016 at 01:45 PM

AE

“ *Amanda White Ellison lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner*



Amanda White Ellison - August 09, 2016 at 12:48 PM

CW

“ *Thank you Craig for extending the invitation to dine at Metropolis many years ago! You introduced my husband and I to a world of wonderful food! We always enjoyed having you as our waiter and there was never an occasion that we did not discuss Jackson during our visits there! Larry and I pray that your family and friends will find peace and comfort in the coming days and years! Craig you were simply the best! We will miss you!*
Always,
Cary and Larry Williams



Cary Williams - August 09, 2016 at 12:02 PM

DH

“ *D. Hamilton lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner*



D. Hamilton - August 09, 2016 at 11:49 AM

AC

“ *My condolences to your family
You were such a special soul
Gone way to soon*



Amanda Cox - August 09, 2016 at 11:47 AM

HC

“ *Your family will be in our thoughts & prayers.
You have always been a fun loving guy. You
were always a wonderful friend to Harry
growing up. You will definitely be missed by
many especially Jackson.*



Harry & Kelli Caraway - August 09, 2016 at 11:27 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of Craig Gardner.*



August 09, 2016 at 09:30 AM

SB

“ *May you finally find peace my friend. Sending our deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers to all of his family. May God comfort each of you through this tragedy.*



Stephanie & Jason Bailey - August 09, 2016 at 09:30 AM

SB

“ *May you finally find peace my friend. Sending our deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers to all of his family. May God comfort each of you through this tragedy.*



Stephanie & Jason Bailey - August 09, 2016 at 09:30 AM

SB

“ *May you finally find peace my friend. Sending my deepest condolences. my thoughts and prayers to all of his family. God Bless all of you!*



Stephanie & Jason Bailey - August 09, 2016 at 09:26 AM

 Valerie Holbrook

“ *Can't even put into words how much you will be missed. You were one of the best friends I have ever had, and always had something positive to say no matter what. I will remember the good times, and the man, friend and father you were, you will forever be in my heart. Love you - Valerie*

Valerie Holbrook - August 09, 2016 at 09:03 AM

LA

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Craig's family and loved ones. May God give you the strength and comfort to get through this difficult time. Craig's kindness and his loving spirit will definitely be missed.

The Chandler Brothers Family

Len Aubry - August 09, 2016 at 08:59 AM



“ Sandra George lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner



Sandra George - August 09, 2016 at 08:57 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Craig Gardner.



August 09, 2016 at 08:12 AM

JJ

“ Thanks for introducing me to the world of sushi, Craig. The lobster roll from Kai Thai is still my fave & always makes me think of you & your silliness the first time you got me to eat it. That still cracks me up!

You were a good friend when I needed one & I so wish you'd known how much so many people loved you. My heart breaks for Jackson & my prayer is that he always knows how much you love him, how proud of him you are & how much joy he brought to your heart.

Godspeed, my friend.

~Flossy

Jennifer G Jones

Jennifer Jones - August 09, 2016 at 08:00 AM

BE

“ Benjamin Elson lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner



Benjamin Elson - August 09, 2016 at 07:54 AM

KP

“ I always knew Craig to be a fun loving guy that was always smiling and making other laugh! I will miss seeing that smiling face. RIP my friend, until we meet again. Love ya forever!

Kimberly♡♡



Kimberly Palmisano - August 09, 2016 at 07:53 AM

MT

“ *monica taylor purchased the Divine Light for the family of Craig Gardner.*



monica taylor - August 09, 2016 at 07:51 AM

SN

“ *Stephanie Lomax Neville lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner*



Stephanie Lomax Neville - August 09, 2016 at 07:15 AM

Mel Porter

“ *love u kid*



Mel Porter - August 09, 2016 at 02:14 AM

CS

“ *I knew Craig since high school and we managed to stay in contact since. Craig was the type of friend who was always there for me no matter what. He genuinely had a heart of gold. He treated everyone with respect and will be greatly missed by many. I pray for his baby boy and family. May we all find peace and acceptance. Love you Craig!*

Chrissy Sury - August 08, 2016 at 11:43 PM

HE

“ Harley & Shannon Hendrix



Hendrix - August 08, 2016 at 10:11 PM



Christina Kocienda

“ Craig and i were friends at age 11 when i moved to ga. He was such a sweetheart. 30 yrs of friendship and he taught me that you could change your life around if you wanted to. We both went from kids to grown ups taking care of our kids. To see him with jax was to see pure unconditional love. I miss his smile n his awesome words of encouragement when i needed them. I love u dear sweet friend and hope ur at peace.

Christina Kocienda - August 08, 2016 at 09:44 PM

DO

“ Donna Oxford lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner



Donna Oxford - August 08, 2016 at 09:41 PM

LS

“ LaTonya Sallad lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner



LaTonya Sallad - August 08, 2016 at 08:44 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Craig Gardner.*



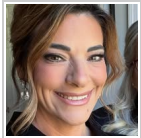
August 08, 2016 at 08:32 PM



“ *Holly Carr purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Craig Gardner.*



Holly Carr - August 08, 2016 at 08:01 PM



“ *My prayers are with the family*

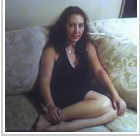


Kelli Kent - August 08, 2016 at 07:48 PM



“ *Craig and I were friends for many years. Since high school, he showed me that he was one of the most loving and lighthearted people I have ever known. He had a way of making laughter come out of any situation and will forever hold a special place in my heart...and we will meet again.*

Mel Porter - August 08, 2016 at 07:37 PM



“ *Wendy Allen lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner*



Wendy Allen - August 08, 2016 at 07:15 PM



“ *Doug Tonya Ellis lit a candle in memory of Craig Gardner*



Doug Tonya Ellis - August 08, 2016 at 07:10 PM



“ *I will never forget all the laughs we shared. Even though the years have past by its your wonderful sense of humor that I will always remember and your mischievous ways. You are at peace my friend.*

Jennifer JP Patton - August 08, 2016 at 06:52 PM



“ *Craig and I have been friends for a very long time, but it wasn't until here lately we became extra close. I loved watching him with Jackson and all the memories we shared together-always making me laugh. He reached in and touched my soul with his selflessness. Craig, I love you today, yesterday, and forever! I'll never forget you-always will hold a place in my heart.*

Holly Carr - August 08, 2016 at 06:37 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Craig Gardner.*



August 08, 2016 at 06:34 PM



“ *I will always remember your beautiful smile. I hope you know now how much you were loved. Rest in Peace* ❤️🙏



Jessica Holmes Patton - August 08, 2016 at 06:05 PM



“ *Rest in Peace, Brother! Although I did not to know you as an adult, I have very fond memories of you when we were kids. You were always in my thoughts and prayers and nothing has changed. I pray that you find peace in the arms of God and your Mama. May you have comfort in knowing Jackson will be a better man because he learned from you and has your good heart. I only wish I had a chance to know you, but there will always be time when the Good Lord calls me home too. Save a hug for me. I am looking forward to seeing that beautiful smile and hearing that robust laugh. Until we meet in Heaven, I love you, brother.*



Sandy Anthony - August 08, 2016 at 06:00 PM



Love this!

Janda Gray - August 16, 2016 at 12:43 AM



“ *Dustin Goddard and Lori Ann Goddard purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Craig Gardner.*



Dustin Goddard and Lori Ann Goddard - August 08, 2016 at 04:32 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Janda Gray - August 08, 2016 at 04:12 PM



RIP Craig....such a sweet soulfrom the Goodie Gallery staff

No

raynell Faulkner - August 08, 2016 at 04:34 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Craig Gardner.*



August 08, 2016 at 03:47 PM

SS

“ Southern Pipe & Supply purchased the Finest Farewell Spray for the family of Craig Gardner.



Southern Pipe & Supply - August 08, 2016 at 03:40 PM

EC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Craig's passing. Praying that God will give his family strength and peace at this difficult time in their lives. Elaine Campbell Carpenter



Elaine Carpenter - August 08, 2016 at 03:06 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Craig Gardner.



August 08, 2016 at 01:49 PM

JE

“ Craig was one of the most caring and wild characters! He was one of my first friends when I moved to town. He came to our house during a power outage and made sure there was clean water and chopped dry firewood for us to stay warm. I will never forget his kindness and sweet sense of humor.

Jessica - August 08, 2016 at 01:17 PM

GI

I will miss you, my dear friend. I will always remember how sweet Jackson A dorky, and how he always ran up to me when I saw you two in public. I'm glad I had to you the last time I saw you I wish I could hug you one more time.

Ginger - August 08, 2016 at 01:19 PM

JF

You will never find a better friend or Daddy than Craig. What an awesome man who would give you his last dime or the shirt off his back. He was such a caring person and so great to be around. I'll never forget the times we spent together! Rest easy, Craig. You will never be forgotten.

Juli McKinnon Franklin - August 08, 2016 at 01:33 PM

HF

I can't believe you are gone my brother. So many memories you and I had together growing up in Highland Village and at school. You were my brother. Even though we drifted apart for quite a while i knew all i had to do was pick up the phone and you would be there. You always made me laugh and picked me up when I was down. You were a great friend to everyone. But above all else you were a great daddy to Jackson. Rest in peace my brother. Hope to see you again.

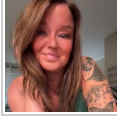
To the Gardner family: my heart breaks for you and especially Jackson. Craig was a good man and was like a brother to me growing up. I wish this was all a bad dream and we could wake up from it. All we can do now is fill Jackson with all the good and funny stories of his daddy so he knows what kind of person he was. I pray that the good Lord above wraps his arms around y'all and gives you peace, comfort and understanding in this time of great sorrow. May he keep Jackson safe and only give him good memories of his daddy as he grows up. And that he helps guide all of you thru this storm. In this we ask in his name. Amen.

Harry/ Kelli Caraway and Family - August 08, 2016 at 03:19 PM

JH

I have nothing but good memories of all the time we have interacted over the years. You were an indescribably cool guy to everyone you met. I will never forget your kindness to me. Rest well my friend.

Jon Holland - August 08, 2016 at 03:25 PM



Everyone who says hello will one day say goodbye. Sometimes without warning or even given a reason why. 💔 Days will pass and turn into years but I will always remember you with silent tears. Rest in peace my friend. I will miss having you to talk to. You always knew just how to cheer me up... I'm forever grateful for your friendship.... You always believed in me... You are the true definition of unconditional love.. you'll forever be missed ❤️ until we meet again! ❤️

Kristy Long - August 08, 2016 at 03:51 PM



With great sadness and disbelief, I extend my sincere sympathy to Craig's family and friends for your tragic loss. Craig was such a compassionate, kind soul and a joy to be around and a loving father to Jackson. There will be a void in all the lives that Craig touched, but remember the good times. God's peace be with you all.

Janice Campbell - August 08, 2016 at 04:09 PM