



John Prather

November 24, 1946 - June 14, 2007

Mr. Prather was the son of the late James and Winifred Darden Prather. He was retired since January 2005 from the Oconee Center. He was a Licensed clinical social worker, Past Executive Director of River Edge in Macon, Past Director of the Middle Georgia Region of Mental Health and Mental Retardation of Central GA. Director of MSRA. Mr. Prather received his Masters from Florida State University, and was a Member of Freedom Church.

Mr. Prather is Survived by his Wife- Marcia Durden Prather of Milledgeville; Stepsons- Brent Fincher and Ryan Fincher both of Milledgeville; Granddaughter- Julia Pabian of Milledgeville; Sisters- Barbara Yocum of Milledgeville, Jan Warnock of Savannah, Ga, and Becky Sanner of Ohio; and Brother Ronnie Smith of Milledgeville; A Number of Nieces and Nephews.

Tribute Wall



“ John was my very dear friend so many years ago I almost don't want to count...we worked together at CSH, ate lunch together daily (enduring cafeteria food), and talked endlessly about everything... he was a wonderful guy and I'm sure I must have had a bit of a crush on him! I last saw him in 1988 when I passed very briefly through Milldegeville. I had heard of his marriage to you, Marcia, and also had heard of his illness from my friend Georgianne Merritt (Bud's sister). I am so sad that he is gone...I think somehow I have had this idea that all of the people who I cared about in the past were still right where I left them, totally unchanged, and that there would always be time to reconnect. Please accept my sympathy...I hope you had many wonderful years together that will bring you comfort and many joy-filled memories.##imported-begin##Judy Baron Sloan##imported-end##

August 29, 2007 at 04:56 PM



“ Marcia, know that you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. Bro. John will surely be missed at Freedom Church. Know that we are here for you if you ever need us.
Love you and God Bless
Patsy and Randall##imported-begin##Patsy and Randall
Thomas##imported-end##

July 06, 2007 at 09:49 PM



“ John was a co-worker on the Adolescent unit with me at CSH in 1969. He brought his "special brand" of caring to the work place. My wife died in Nov. 06 of the same disease as John had. You and your family will be in my prayers. God be with you.##imported-begin##K. Holley Cowan##imported-end##

June 26, 2007 at 10:43 AM



“ Aunt Marcia,
I just want to tell you how much I know Uncle John loved you, and the boys. I know ya'll brought much joy to his life, esp. Julia. He was always smiling, and he was very special to me. There isn't a better man here on this earth! I love you, call me if you need anything!!##imported-begin##ELLIE MILLER##imported-end##

June 21, 2007 at 11:36 AM



“ I mourn for the family and the community for the loss of a good man. He was a pleasure to work for and in my years with Oconee Center and afterward, I grew to respect him so much. He will surely be missed.##imported-begin##Kristen M. Peek##imported-end##

June 18, 2007 at 01:57 PM



“ Marcia:

I am sorry for your loss. The two years I spent under his guidance was impressionable and I will always remember him as a great mentor to others. His intelligence, respect and kind heart will be missed dearly. ~ Stacey##imported-begin##Stacey L. Wrightam##imported-end##

June 18, 2007 at 11:07 AM



“ *Ronnie, I am very sorry to hear about John. I saw him at the class of 64 reunion a few summers back. Harold##imported-begin##Harold Clack##imported-end##*

June 18, 2007 at 10:05 AM



“ *We are sorry about your loss John was a good man. God put no more on us than we can bare. We will continue to keep you in my prayers.##imported-begin##Sharon Byner and Jerry Gail Smith##imported-end##*

June 18, 2007 at 09:24 AM



“ *John was a very caring and giving person. He will be missed as a professional and a friend. God Bless you Marsha, Brent, and Ryan in your time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Pam Spivey##imported-end##*

June 18, 2007 at 08:12 AM



“ *Marcia,*

I am so sorry for your loss. John was a good man and I always enjoyed being around him. Even though our paths separated many years ago, you, John and the boys have often been in my thoughts and prayers.

Peter##imported-begin##Peter Bryant##imported-end##

June 18, 2007 at 08:01 AM



“ we regret to hear of john's death and send our condolences for marsha and john's family. please know our thoughts are with you during this very difficult time.##imported-begin##myers and linda kurtz##imported-end##

June 17, 2007 at 04:55 PM



“ Marcia, my heart goes out to you and the family in the loss of John. I have known John for a number of years and we had a good friendship. If i can help in any way, please let me know.

Love,

Alice Brett##imported-begin##Alice Brett##imported-end##

June 17, 2007 at 03:18 PM



“ Marcia and Family,
We are so sorry about John. Richard really enjoyed the friendship he and John had.
You and your family are in our prayers.##imported-begin##The Richard Hudson Family##imported-end##

June 17, 2007 at 11:10 AM



“ I feel blessed to have known John for over 35-years. To have known him as friend, mentor, and colleague has been an honor. He was loved by many and will be missed.
Marcia, may God continue to be in your life and know that God will have a special place for John in His Kingdom.##imported-begin##Dr. John C. Burns, III##imported-end##

June 17, 2007 at 12:02 AM



“ *The years pass so quickly and the names, voices and faces of our youth come to us in thought and memory on occasions that stimulate our memories of days gone by. John is one of my classmates I recall with fond memory. We played music together and dated some of the same girls. After school, I went off to service and John to college. Upon my return from military service, John took me aside and brought me up to date on many things I had missed during my absence. He cared enough to let me know things I would not have known otherwise. I have always appreciated that caring and willingness to assist me in my readjustment to life after service. I thank him once again for his caring and wish him a fair wind, a following sea and rest in a safe port.*

My thoughts and prayers to his family.##imported-begin##Dr. Thomas Peavy##imported-end##

June 16, 2007 at 07:13 PM



“ G.K. Chesterton, the British author reminds us that "we make our friends, we make our enemies, but God makes our next door neighbors". What a pip of a job he did when he blessed us with John and Marcia (and Blue!) as our next door neighbors. Actually, I think John would have considered Chesterton as a kindred spirit, as Chesterton was called the "prince of paradox" because (like John), his dogma is hidden beneath a light, energetic, and whimsical style. Crossing paths with John and Blue on their daily constitutional around the neighborhood was always a joy, and we will take comfort thinking he's just out of sight around the corner by Mrs. Nelson's, enjoying the view acrosss the pasture towards the river. Proverbs 11:25 surely applies to John's vocational legacy, "he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed".

Thank you Marcia, dear neighbor, for the legacy of your and John's great love story. You show those of us just starting out what a true marriage is, and you prove that "Amor vincit omnia" (love conquers all).##imported-begin##Jan and Dean Clark##imported-end##

June 16, 2007 at 01:49 PM



“ IN SCHOOL JOHN WAS LIKED BY EVERYONE AND ALWAYS HAD A FRIENDLY SMILE. I KNOW HE WILL BE MISSED.##imported-begin##LARRY BURGAMY##imported-end##

June 16, 2007 at 11:24 AM



“ *Marcia and family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you. John Prather was one of the kindest, most intelligent men I have ever known. He chose to see the best in every one and he brought out the best in those he worked with and served. He could make the worst of situations seem bearable with just a smile.
For many of us who were privileged to be supervised and coached by him, he was inspirational. He shared his strong faith in God with anyone who would take the time to listen. There's a verse somewhere in Proverbs that says, " A true friend loveth at all times." We are going to miss our true friend John, but we will forever remember what a privilege it has been to be touched by his life. He shared so much with us, I think I'll miss his laughter most of all. Keep the faith.##imported-begin##Sheree Applebury##imported-end##*

June 16, 2007 at 02:46 AM



“ *Please accept my deepest sympathies.I grew up on Vinson Highway,neighbors to the Prathers'and have many fond memories of our childhood adventures.Jan please know you are in my thoughts and prayers along with your sister inlaw and the rest of the family.God has a reason for everything and will see you through.##imported-begin##Linda Sanford Liester##imported-end##*

June 15, 2007 at 11:48 PM



“ Dear Family, Please know we are holding you up in our prayers. We hope the words of this poem bring a balm to your heart:

*The Balm of God's Love
When we lose someone we love
The loss seems too great to bear
God sends us friends to comfort us
To show that He deeply cares
But in the dark hours of the night
When there's nobody else around
When we feel the saddest and loneliest
It's there God's love can be found
It's like a soothing, healing balm
To soothe our broken hearts
The healing oil poured over us
That flows into every part
We can rest secure in God's love
And know He's by our side
He holds us when we feel as though
A part of us has died
We can know that God will listen
When we just want to talk
And when we feel we need to cry
We can share it with the Lord
For He is always waiting there
Ready with arms open wide
As we pour out the hurt within
He pours His love inside
Our Father above loves us so much
And will never leave us alone
He will not forsake us in our need
To face this on our own
He comforts us and strengthens us
And rubs us with His balm
And as the dawn breaks through the night
We'll awake in His loving arms.*

Written by M.S.Lowndes.

*Mr. Prather will be greatly missed at Freedom Church.
Love and Prayers, Robert and Joan Miller##imported-
begin##Robert and Joan Miller##imported-end##*

June 15, 2007 at 08:26 PM



“ *Dear Prather Family,*

I was really saddend to learn of John's passing today. He was a good guy and I have enjoyed knowing and seeing him around for a long time. I know he was a HUGE asset to the mental health community in and around Baldwin County and will be missed by many.

The thoughts and prayers of myself and my family are entended to you all during this difficult time.

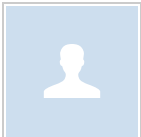
May the Peace and Love of God be with you.

Sincerely,

Greg Hutchins and Famnily

Bowdon, Ga.##imported-begin##Greg Hutchins##imported-end##

June 15, 2007 at 06:18 PM



“ *Marcia, we were so sorry to hear about John. I enjoyed working with him, and knew that he was a very intelligent, but fun person to be around. You and your family are in our prayers.*

*Love, Joe and Tondra Mobley##imported-begin##Tondra
Mobley##imported-end##*

June 15, 2007 at 04:46 PM



“ *Marcia and Family,*

I am very saddened for your loss. I knew John through a working relationship on various committees and Oconee Center projects. He was always so cheerful and such a joy to be around. He will be missed by many.

Marcia, it was obvious to all how much he loved and cherished you. My deepest sympathy to you.

You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Cindy Cunningham##imported-end##

June 15, 2007 at 04:40 PM