



Wayne Mills

August 17, 1969 - November 23, 2013

Wayne Mills, 44 of Tennessee, formerly of Arab died Saturday, November 23, 2013 in Tennessee.

As a popular country singer-songwriter and leader of The Wayne Mills Band, he leaves behind an impressive body of work, including seven albums and thousands of shows over 20 years, and an unforgettable legacy serves as a testament to his philosophy of life.

"As for my music," he told writer Neil Hamilton, "that's still a work in progress, except to say that I know I've touched people deeper than I realize. I don't expect anything. I just hope my music helps people move on and deal with life." The most important things in his life were God, family and music and he devoted his life to serving and loving all three.

He was born in Arab, Alabama where he enjoyed singing with his family at home and in the choir at the Baptist church. His parents and four sisters taught him not to fear tears, expressions of love or standing up for what is right.

Although he learned to play piano and guitar as a teen, sports were his focus. He played baseball at Wallace State Junior College and football at the University of Alabama, where he earned a 4.0. It's no surprise that he

majored in education so that he could dedicate his life to helping others. He met fellow student, Carol Supinger in 1992 and they married in 2000. Their son, Jack Writhe, was born in 2006.

After football ended, his guitar provided the perfect outlet for his feelings and ambitions. He formed his band and began playing in Tuscaloosa bars and his popularity began to spread. He moved to Nashville in 2003 and quickly became the heart of country music's creative community.

He played the music industry game by his own rules, especially the Golden Rule. He viewed fellow performers as friends, not competition and was quick to share his good fortune, whether it was money, contacts or the spotlight. For Wayne, it wasn't about money, but making music that pleased people. His warm bear hugs were infamous on Music Row. Artists such as Jamey Johnson and Blake Shelton opened for the Wayne Mills Band early in their careers. The gentle giant would give up paying shows to perform at benefits without hesitation. As writer Neil Hamilton noted, "Fun and friendly, Wayne also has a big, big heart. He's so selfless that he probably doesn't know what selfishness means. He's also talented and versatile - musically and otherwise."

Like Wayne, his music defied a simple description. He revered traditional country music, but he carved his own musical path, with each turn bringing a new chapter of creative exploration. His songs were edgy and vulnerable, tough and compassionate. In "One of These Days," he sang, "My friends lost their lives, but I remember their dreams." We will remember Wayne's dreams, as well as his life and music and especially his heart.

Wayne leaves behind a whole host of family, his wife: Carol, a son: Jack Wright Mills; two sisters: Jackie Maddux and Paula Lemons (Lynn), his grandmother: Ruby Neel, several nieces, nephews, cousins and many dear

friends.

Funeral Service will be 1:30 p.m. Sunday, December 8, 2013 at Arab High School Auditorium (located at 511 Arabian Drive; Arab, AL 35016).

The only visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 8, 2013 at Arab High School Auditorium (located at 511 Arabian Drive; Arab, AL 35016)

Burial will take place privately.

Tribute Wall

JP

“ *John C Phillips lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills* ”



John C Phillips - May 31, 2019 at 12:38 PM

AW

“ *Al Weaver lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills* ”



Al Weaver - November 10, 2018 at 12:36 AM

JP

“ *John C Phillips lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills* ”



John C Phillips - September 11, 2018 at 03:02 PM

SH

“ *Sharon lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills* ”



Sharon - November 23, 2014 at 07:19 PM

LG

“ *Lori Gemette lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Lori Gemette - December 11, 2013 at 02:55 PM

AT

“ *Angie Tate lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*




Angie Tate - December 10, 2013 at 12:42 AM



“ *Shannon Parker lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Shannon Parker - December 10, 2013 at 12:34 AM

 Deena Washam

“ *Deena Washam lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Deena Washam - December 09, 2013 at 03:50 PM

JE

“ *May God Bless all of you during this difficult time. Wayne was a great friend and whom I had the pleasure of watching him grow up. Wayne was a good man and I have no doubt his memory will live on forever for all of us.*

*Love and Hugs,
Jackie Thompson Eckersley*

Jackie Eckersley - December 09, 2013 at 02:50 PM

CW

“ *Cindy Walker lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Cindy Walker - December 09, 2013 at 08:19 AM

TK

“ *Tanya King lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Tanya King - December 08, 2013 at 09:43 PM

RH

“ *Randy And Lauren Harnack lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Randy and Lauren Harnack - December 08, 2013 at 06:49 PM



“ *Todd Tipton lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Todd Tipton - December 08, 2013 at 06:37 PM



“ *Valerie Mayes lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Valerie Mayes - December 08, 2013 at 05:07 PM



“ *Lalana Riggs Brooks lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Lalana Riggs Brooks - December 08, 2013 at 02:04 PM



“ *Mike and I had our first dance, on our first date, to Wayne's "Dream Come True". We married less than a year later. Thank you, Wayne. You became a cherished friend, and we love you and miss you so much.*

Mike and Connie Norrell - December 08, 2013 at 12:17 PM

MN

“ *Mike And Connie Norrell lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Mike and Connie Norrell - December 08, 2013 at 12:14 PM

Hollie Buccellato

“ *Hollie Buccellato lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



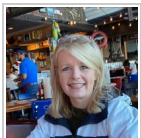
Hollie Buccellato - December 08, 2013 at 10:01 AM

BM

“ *Bonnie Moses lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Bonnie Moses - December 08, 2013 at 09:38 AM



“ *Louise Cresse lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Louise Cresse - December 08, 2013 at 09:35 AM

Lori
Bishop

“ *Lori Bishop lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Lori Bishop - December 08, 2013 at 08:52 AM

Jessica
Chandler

“ *Jessica Chandler lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Jessica Chandler - December 08, 2013 at 08:52 AM

JF

“ *Jeff Finley lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Jeff Finley - December 08, 2013 at 06:44 AM



“ *Wayne will be missed and his legacy will live on through his music. The last time I saw him, I got a big bear hug. I saw him walking past the Hard Rock parking lot. I put my car in park and got out to hug him. I was just pulling out of the parking lot, good thing no one was behind me. I was talking about a benefit I was helping with and he said he would play it if he was in town. I will miss him and his hugs.*

Krys Midgett - December 08, 2013 at 12:48 AM

MT

“ *Missy Thomas lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Missy Thomas - December 07, 2013 at 11:02 PM

BL

“ *Bonnie Ledlow lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Bonnie Ledlow - December 07, 2013 at 10:43 PM

TT

“ *Sending Many Prayers and Thoughts To "The Wayne Mills Family." Wayne, Your Memory Will Live Forever Within and Many Loving Prayers and Thoughts To Carol and Jack. "Heaven Needed Another Angel, You Will Always Be Loved."
Tammy Tolbert*



Tammy Tolbert - December 07, 2013 at 09:23 PM

TR

“ *Terry Redding lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Terry Redding - December 07, 2013 at 08:51 PM

DG

“ *Dick & Gaye Garner lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Dick & Gaye Garner - December 07, 2013 at 09:33 AM

LT

“ *We miss you Wayne...Hurricane Warning Band*



Larry T.Wilson - December 06, 2013 at 07:12 PM

SF

“ *Wow what fond memories i have of this wonderful country outlaw. May you rest in heaven and play all those songs we all love to hear, now God has gained another angel may you spread your wings and fly.*



Sandi Grayson Fiorillo - December 06, 2013 at 04:00 PM

FL

“ *Flora-Bama Lounge purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Wayne Mills.*



Flora-Bama Lounge - December 06, 2013 at 02:16 PM

JB

“ Now your with all of them darlin. God is tapping his toe up there and clapping!! Carol and Jack I've prayed every night for y'all Love y'all 2 and will see y'all on Sunday

Jessica Beasley - December 05, 2013 at 11:01 PM

DE

“ Donna Evans lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills



Donna Evans - December 05, 2013 at 07:39 PM

DE

Wayne was a very special person that will be truly missed. I did not know Wayne as well as some but the time that I got to spend with him will never be forgotten. My prayers are with you Carol and Jack. Even though we do not have an understanding of why Wayne was taken from us but God must have needed another guitar player and singer in his heavenly band.

Donna Evans - December 05, 2013 at 07:44 PM

AP

“ Angie Putnam sent a virtual gift in memory of Wayne Mills



Angie Putnam - December 05, 2013 at 08:21 AM



“ *Amie Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Amie Hopkins - December 05, 2013 at 06:16 AM



“ *Russ Darmer lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Russ Darmer - December 05, 2013 at 12:48 AM



“ *Debbie Hulsey lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Debbie Hulsey - December 04, 2013 at 08:26 PM



“ *"Even angels had guitars before they had wings". I know Meatloaf sang this long ago, but it's how I feel now. I am blessed to have shared my youth with such a great friend.*



Kira Lamb - December 04, 2013 at 06:18 PM

SA

“ *Sandra lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Sandra - December 04, 2013 at 05:51 PM

MR

“ *Margaret Bowser And Terry Redding lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Margaret Bowser and Terry Redding - December 04, 2013 at 04:58 PM

LW

“ *Laura Whitney lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Laura Whitney - December 04, 2013 at 04:41 PM

LN

“ *Thinking of you, and sending tons of prayers your way!*



Leslie Norris - December 04, 2013 at 04:11 PM

JW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. I didn't know Wayne but he was friends with my brother Greg Shirley. May God wrap his arms around you all tonight.

Sincerely,

Jami, Perry, and Jessi Williamson

Southside, Alabama

Jami Williamson - December 04, 2013 at 03:27 PM

LW

“ LaBron White lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills



LaBron White - December 04, 2013 at 02:50 PM


Charlotte
Flack
Roberson

“ Charlotte Flack Roberson lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills



Charlotte Flack Roberson - December 04, 2013 at 02:32 PM

TE

“ Paula and all the Mills family, I wish I had words that would make all this better but I don't....know that you all are loved very much. Your family here in Mississippi is lifting you all up in prayer and asking God to surround each of you with a peace that only he can give...



Teresa Echols - December 04, 2013 at 10:48 AM



“ *Marcus Broadway lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Marcus Broadway - December 04, 2013 at 09:48 AM



“ *Monica Howard lit a candle in memory of Wayne Mills*



Monica Howard - December 04, 2013 at 09:28 AM