



Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III

November 8, 1966 - November 26, 2014

Tallis T. Yates, III, affectionately known as "Tee", departed this earthly life on Wednesday, November 26, 2014 at Tuomey Regional Healthcare System in Sumter, SC. Born on November 8, 1966 in Sumter County, he was a son of Corine Nickens Yates Grant and the late Tallis Yates, Jr.. Tallis was a 1986 graduate of Hillcrest High School. Tallis accepted Christ as his Savior and was a member of Willow Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church where he attended faithfully.

"Tee's" love for his wife, his "Sweetie", was unconditional. He loved his two wonderful children and his girlie girl, Shay. "Tee" was a happy and fun loving person, who dearly loved his family and friends. Underneath "Tee's" deep baritone voice was the heart of a "teddy bear". He never met a stranger, and if he happened upon a stranger, they did not depart as a stranger. If Noah Webster was assigned the task to define "Tee", the following adjectives would be listed next to his name: generous, dependable, hard worker, and devoted. Tallis was employed at Becton Dickinson for over twenty-eight years.

He was preceded in death by his father, Tallis Yates, Jr.; maternal grandparents, Rev. Bowman and Rebecca Davis Nickens; paternal grandparents, Mr. Tallis Yates, Sr. and Julia Bolden Pinckney Yates; godfather, Johnnie Pettyjohn; stepfather, Houston Grant; father-in-law Jessie Williams.

In addition to his mother, he leaves to cherish his precious memories and celebrate his life, his loving and devoted wife of 26 years, Terry Williams Yates of the home; a beautiful daughter, Shayla G. Yates of Sumter, SC; a loving son, Tallis (Stephanie) Yates IV of Dallas, TX; one beautiful granddaughter, Michaela Yates of Sumter, SC; four brothers: Harold Dawson, Roosevelt (Tracy) Nelson, Jr., Travis Yates, all of Rembert, SC and Tony (Shante) Yates of Dalzell, SC; one sister, Teresa (Jerry) Washington of Sumter, SC; seven step-siblings; Mattie Montgomery, Clotell Way, Patricia (William) Jefferson of Sumter, SC, Ethel Jones of Orangeburg, SC; Willie (Gladys) Grant of Sumter, SC; Donald Ray Grant of Dalzell, SC; Timothy (Carbia) Grant of Nashville, TN; nine aunts: Josephine Parker of Sumter, SC, Sadie Muldrow and Arthuree Johnson of Sumter, SC, Thelma Coclough of Philadelphia, PA, Julia Pettyjohn, Maggie Sheppard, Edith Nickens, and Bernice King all of Rembert, SC, Sadie Singleton of Columbia, SC, Geneva Nickens of Camden, SC; William Sheppard and Richard Pinkney, Jr. both of Rembert, SC, Roosevelt Nelson, Sr. of Washington, DC; two great-aunts: Angeline Loney of Dalzell, SC and Carrie Johnson of Philadelphia, PA; mother-in-law Mary Alice Williams of Rembert, SC; two sisters-in-law Shirley (Robert) Mitchell of Sumter, SC and Carolyn Sanders of Rembert, SC; two brothers-in-law Richard Weathers of Rembert, SC and Jessie (Josephine) Williams, Jr. of Jonesboro, GA; special cousin Tonita Miller and godson Darnell Harris, Jr.; special friends, Calvin (Elizabeth) Oaks; a host of nieces, nephews, and many other loving relatives and caring friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Palmer Memorial Chapel - Sumter
304 South Main Street
Sumter, SC 29150
(803) 773-3381
palmermemorialchapel@sc.rr.com
<https://www.palmermemorialchapel.com>

Service

DEC 3. 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Willow Grove AME Church
Horatio, SC

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III*

October 04, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *Ronnie Portee lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III*



Ronnie Portee - December 06, 2014 at 08:00 AM



“ *Tee u will be greatly missed RIP...*

Ronnie Portee - December 06, 2014 at 07:59 AM



“ *Tallis you will truly be missed!! Our hearts are heavy but everytime I think of you I can't help but laugh out loud!! remembering when you would stop by me on the forklift and say "hey you got anything on you" lol that was our inside joke from my granddaughter Aliyah whom you referred to as Ma and I still have the gift you gave her when she was 5 years old she's 13 years old now!! Wow always giving, laughing, caring about others what a memory I will have in my heart!! RIP Tallis !!*



Brenda M. Scott - December 04, 2014 at 01:39 PM

BW

“ Our hearts are heavy for the Yates family. We recollect on memories filled with nothing but pure laughter and joy, and can't help but shed tears! What a privilege it was to have met someone with such a warm smile and an even warmer heart. We are praying for your strength, comfort, and understanding in such a difficult time. We are thinking of you and we love you!



Brittani Winters - December 03, 2014 at 09:30 PM

LT

“ Terri and Travis, Our condolences goes out to you and the rest of the family. We pray for your comfort during this time. Remember weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. May God continue to wrap His loving arms around the entire family.
Love,
Berry and Lynn Thomas



Lynn T - December 03, 2014 at 06:48 PM

TH

“ Teresa Harvard lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III



Teresa Harvard - December 03, 2014 at 04:29 PM

CG

“ To Terry, Aunt Corine, Teresa and all the boys. I'm so sorry and still in shock on the passing of my cousin Tee. Know that our heart felt sympathy, our love for the family is with you today and always. Lean on the Lord for Peace and understanding for He is your strength. Love you all. Carolyn, James, L'Oreal and Michael.



Carolyn and James Gooden - December 03, 2014 at 01:56 PM

CC

“ Tallis will be forever missed. My heart and prayers go out to his family. I never had the opportunity to work directly with him, but passed and joked with him in the hall and rubber department many many times. God has a new angel in heaven. God Bless!

Cora Cleveland - December 03, 2014 at 12:14 PM

CK

“ Tee was a great Husband, Dad and Friend. Even though I worked with Teri, Tee always kept us laughing when ever we saw each other. I will always miss seeing Tee at Raybon at least twice out of the year. Lol. Teri you and the children will always be in our prayers. God Bless you. Cedric and Jamelle Kirkman



Cedric Kirkman - December 03, 2014 at 12:11 PM

BW

“ No one can prepare you for a loss; it comes like a swift wind. But take comfort in knowing that Tee is now resting in the arms of our Lord. My deepest condolences to Terri, Teresa, Mrs. Corine and the entire family. Tee will truly be missed, especially his smile. God bless you all.



David & Barbara (Loney) Wells

Barbara Wells - December 03, 2014 at 11:53 AM

CH

“ You are loved and missed and will never be forgotten. Prayers for your family as they have to say see you later but not goodbye, for we will see you again. Believers of Christ have that promise.

Charlotte and Glenn Hill - December 03, 2014 at 08:18 AM

MB

“ Me and Tallis worked together for 11 years and became good friends. Rest in peace Bro !!! You will greatly be missed!

Mark Browder - December 03, 2014 at 07:15 AM

WM

“ Tallis you will truly be miss, your smile, your joke most of all your personailty. God knows best. Love you Mr. & Mrs. John Montgomery



Willie Mae Montgomery - December 03, 2014 at 05:18 AM

SW

“ Vet, we send our sincere condolences. Cherish the memories and wonderful times you shared. They will provide comfort and peace in the coming days. God bless you.

Your cousin, Stephanie Williams

Stephanie Croom Williams - December 03, 2014 at 01:05 AM

TH

“ Terrie ,Fannie And Christine House sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III



Terrie ,Fannie and Christine House - December 02, 2014 at 10:26 PM

TH

“ I can still see his big smile from the last time that I saw Tallis,it was at our cousins Jackie house about a week ago and we we both laughing about how the Turtle stew was not for us.We didn't see each other often but you were and always be apart of my family.Vet,I am so sorry for the loss of your husband and I will be praying for you and your family.



T errie house - December 02, 2014 at 10:03 PM



“ To the family of the Late Tallies Yates. Tallies was a person that adopted as my Nephew, we would always greet each other with " hey Auntie and hey nephew" than will often talk about our families, I will miss him and his big wide beautiful smile. Just to reflect on one of his many generousities, It was raining hard outside during my shift change, he walk me out to my car with his umbrella because I didn't have on. He was that type of guy.Terrie you had a wonderful and kind husband. Love you Nephew take your rest we love you, but God knows best. From the Wilson Family Shirley (B/D) and John Wilson

Shirley Wilson - December 02, 2014 at 10:01 PM

MP

“ Terry words cannot begin to express our deepest felt sympathy for you and your family. I thank "GOD" that He saw fit for our paths to cross.Tee will be greatly missed by all who knew him. I encourage you to hold onto and cherish those precious memories that you and Tee shared for the greatest gift of all is LOVE and that... everyone was a witness too.

Albert & Myra Palmer

Myra Palmer - December 02, 2014 at 09:36 PM

J"

“ Jackie Jackson " Big J " lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III



Jackie Jackson " Big J " - December 02, 2014 at 08:37 PM

J"

Love You and forever Miss You Tallis

Jackie Jackson " Big J " - December 02, 2014 at 08:39 PM

YP

“ *Tallis will truly be missed. He always kept a laughter on my face with his jokes. I remember him from high school and while working at BD and he was always the same funny Tee. I will never forget one morning while working at BD just before it was time to clock out he would get a couple of co workers car keys to crank their cars up to have it warm because it was so cold.. nice of him right.. .well this particular morning Tee along with his buddy Mark got our keys and cranked the cars but they wanted to pull a joke on me yes he cranked my car but he moved it alllllll the way to the last park in the back of the parking lot and to top it all off he turned the air on.. lol I could not get mad at him we all just laughed at his crazy joke. He did ended up getting my car and bringing it to me with the heat on. Lol... That was just Tee always jokey. He kept us awake plenty of nights on third shift. Terry my prayers are with you and the family. I pray that God will strengthen you every day.*

Yvonne Pitts-Myers - December 02, 2014 at 07:48 PM

YP

“ *Yvonne Pitts-Myers sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III*



Yvonne Pitts-Myers - December 02, 2014 at 07:18 PM

MR

“ *Sending our Condolences. "Vet" we are so sorry about the loss of your husband, We are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless*

Mary & Ronnie Rivers....



Mary Rivers - December 02, 2014 at 05:57 PM

KW

“ *Terry I'am so very sorry for your lost. You and your family are in my prayers.*



Kellye R. Williams - December 02, 2014 at 05:11 PM

LP

“ *Words cannot begin to express the feelings that we as a family are feeling at this time. What I think of the most when I think of Tee is the way he would always act out my father's mannerisms. He had them down exactly!! He would always know how to make you laugh and would always be the same where ever we were. It's going to be a long road ahead of us, but this too shall pass.*

*Lovingly Submitted By:
Stacey Pinckney
#1*

Larissa Pinckney - December 02, 2014 at 01:23 PM

EF

Words cannot express how I am feeling, just the thought of not being able to see your smile sadden me. But I must say we had the best time playing kickball/running up and down the dirt road with the hot sun beaming in our faces! You will be missed!! Love your cousin Eugenie

eugenie fulton - December 02, 2014 at 09:13 PM

PQ

“ Terry and Family, We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Yates. It's almost unbelievable, however, we know to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. We so remember his "hotdog" encouragement and enthusiasm when Josh was playing football. We laughed about that when talking about him. He was a true fan. He always had only positive encouragement not only for Josh but for all my children. We will miss him and pray that God gives you all the peace that passes all understanding during this time. Hold on to your memories as he rests in peace. Phaedra Queen and Joshua, Seth and Gabrielle Fitzgerald.

Phaedra Queen - December 02, 2014 at 11:39 AM

DS

“ Derrick Singleton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III



Derrick Singleton - December 02, 2014 at 11:06 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III.



December 02, 2014 at 10:36 AM

RS

“ I was privileged to have known and worked with Tallis for many years. And over those years shared a very special relationship with him. Tallis was always upbeat, respectful of others, hard working and never hesitated to help others. Tallis had the gift to attract people to him and never met a stranger. Tallis could always find the positive side of everything that came his way. He could always make people laugh with his quick humor and sharp wit. He also did a pretty good imitation of me at times. My memory of "T" will always be of great times and great talks. Tallis will be missed by all who knew him....especially me. Richard Smith

Richard Smith - December 02, 2014 at 10:25 AM

KB

“ Keisha Bolden lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III



Keisha Bolden - December 02, 2014 at 09:32 AM

DH

“ I have worked with Tee at BD for almost 20 years and I felt like I had known him all my life from the first moment I met him. He never met a stranger and he always had encouraging words to say if I was down or just having a bad day. He called me 'D' most of the time and he loved to give me a hard time for being a USC fan, but it was always in fun. I was actually looking forward to seeing him the Monday after the game just to see what he was going to say, because whatever it was going to be, it was going to be good coming from him. I will truly miss you and my deepest condolences go out to Tee's family. I pray that God will comfort each and every one of you while going through the loss of such a wonderful person. Rest easy and in peace Tee, you may be gone but NEVER forgotten!!!

Donna Hickman

Donna Hickman - December 02, 2014 at 08:43 AM

PW

“ The Hillcrest High School Class of 1983 would like to extend our deepest sympathy in the passing of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III. Your Wildcat family shares in your grief during this most difficult time. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you all on today and on all the days to come. May God continue to bless and keep you all.

*The Hillcrest High School Class of 1983
Pamela Angevine Whitfield, President*

Pamela Whitfield - December 02, 2014 at 08:33 AM

LI

“ My deepest, heart-felt condolences to the family. Tallis was a wonderful man. I've worked at BD for 20 years, and he was one of my favorite people here. It didn't matter what kind of day I was having, or what kind of day he was having – when he saw me, he would always, always smile and speak to me. He called me “Lisa Flair” because he saw a picture of me with the wrestler Ric Flair a long, long time ago. It was kind of our inside joke. I will miss him very much. BD seems a little less bright now. Godspeed, my friend.



Lisa - December 02, 2014 at 07:44 AM

VC

“ VICKIE CROOM-ROBINSON lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tallis "Tee" Yates III



VICKIE CROOM-ROBINSON - December 02, 2014 at 05:34 AM

VG

“ Wow! I still can't believe that last Tuesday when we were laughing and joking around would be the last time I talked to you. Tallis your smile and kindness will be missed.

Van Gilber - December 02, 2014 at 03:27 AM

GP

“ Tallis and I knew one another from attending the Sumter County Career Center in high school together and after graduation began working at BD the very same week. "T-Bone" (my nick name for Tee) and I have worked side-by-side for over 28 years and became very close friends. He and I were a couple of rambunctious youngsters who stuck it out through years of working demanding night & weekend shifts in the Rubber department together, but neither of us would have it any other way. Through the years Tee and I shared much about life's experiences like getting married, having children and facing life's struggles along the way. He was always a trustworthy friend who I could share anything with without fear of judgment or ridicule. Tallis set an awesome example every day for those around him at work. He showed us what a hard-working, positive and dedicated friend and co-worker looked like and I know that his spirit will continue to enrich BD and the lives of those who recall cherished memories of times with him. There are many fond (and hilarious) memories of experiences with Tee that I will never forget, but most of all I will remember him for being such an encouraging friend. T-Bone told me on more than one occasion when I was working through difficult times at work that as long as I was doing my best to do what was right, the rest would work out. His favorite thing to say to me was "Posey, we just gotta do what we gotta do". I was always amazed at how comfortable Tee was interacting with everyone he met. He was the same all day, every day, no matter whether he was talking to a co-worker, supervisor, manager or division president. Tallis had a sense of humor that was truly infectious; we often said that he really could have been a successful comedian. Although I will sorely miss my Ole Buddy Tallis, I am comforted knowing that I will see him again one day. He told me just weeks ago as we talked about the loss of another mutual friend, that we never know when our time would be up here and we should always be ready. I know he was ready and Heaven is a little brighter today with him there. Rest in peace T-bone!

Glenn Posey

Glenn Posey - December 01, 2014 at 10:46 PM

JC

“ *I worked with Tallis for about 13 years at BD. He always had a smile on his face and I can still hear him laugh. He was a dear friend. We will miss him but God just gained another angel. My prayers go out to the family.*

Jennifer Marinko Clayton

Jennifer Clayton - December 01, 2014 at 08:15 PM

LP

“ *Dear Family,*

When we think of Tee we will always think of him lovingly and fondly. We can't help but to reflect back on our time in Charleston this August. Terri you and I riding in the backseat of Arnie's truck, holding on to each other with our eyes closed as we crossed that big bridge, with Arnie and Tee up front laughing at the two of us. Little did we know, that just a few short months later Tee would be crossing his own bridge to join his Heavenly Father.

I know your hearts are heavy right now and that's okay. But lift your heads soon and smile and remember Tee as the hard working, fun loving, genuine guy he was. We will always have wonderful memories of our many home cooked Sunday dinners together after church services at Willow Grove.

Take your rest Tee, you were truly a faithful servant.

*All Our Love,
Arnie, Lisi, Justin, and Xavier*

Lisi Platt - December 01, 2014 at 06:39 PM

MF

“ *Tallis was a great coworker and friend. Days will seem longer without him to pass the time with. He will truly be missed.*

Michael Freeman - December 01, 2014 at 05:49 PM

RL

*Tallis was a VERY good friend of mine. He would come by just about every other day after work and sit on the porch before going home to his wife Terry that he loved dearly. He will truly be missed. R.I.P.
Robert & Mary Lee*

Robert F. Lee - December 03, 2014 at 07:43 PM