



## Billy Ray Adams

*September 12, 1930 - March 6, 2007*

Billy Ray Adams of Plano, Texas, went to be with the Lord on March 6, 2007, after a courageous battle with Melanoma. He was born in his family farm house in Lesley, Texas, in the Panhandle on September 12, 1930 to Dudley and Lillie Mae Adams. He graduated from Lakeview High School and then attended Clarendon Jr. College for one year, before being drafted into the Army in 1950 during the Korean War. After being discharged from the Army in 1952, he attended Hardin Simmons University and graduated in 1955 with a BBA degree. While attending HSU, he met Virginia Carter and they were married in 1954. He was employed with Sears Roebuck and Co. part time during his senior year and continued working for Sears for 40 years in credit management. He was the Credit Central Manager of the DFW Metroplex at the time of his retirement in 1994. He was a long time member of the Credit Management Association of Dallas and served on the Board of Directors. Bill was always active in the Baptist church where ever they lived and served as a deacon at First Baptist Church of Plano. After his retirement, he was a volunteer with the Texas Baptist Men Disaster Group that went to many areas of destruction. Bill was also a volunteer with the Bill Glass Prison Ministry since 1997 and went to over 70 prisons in Texas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Kansas and Ohio where he would witness one on one with the inmates. In addition to Bill's volunteer work, he served on the Board of Development at Hardin Simmons University for several years. Billy Ray Adams is survived by his wife Virginia; daughters Kimberly Dale of Dallas, Amy and her husband Roger Middleton of Allen, Lara and her husband Clay Sheriff of Prosper; mother Lillie Mae Adams of Amarillo; grandchildren Lindsay Priddy, Sara Middleton and Madelyn and Adam Sheriff; brother Wayne and his wife Libby Adams of Kansas City, KS; sister-in-law Maxine Carter of Weatherford; and many nieces and nephews and beloved friends. A son, Stephen Carter Adams, preceded him in death in 1958 and his father, Dudley Adams in 1980. Bill was very devoted to and proud of his family. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather and was devoted to his church and helping others. Bill would like to be known as someone who loved the Lord and was happiest when he was involved with the Lord's work, truly a servant's heart. He will be greatly missed. The family wishes to extend their greatest appreciation to Dr. Michael Savin, Dr. Neil Senzer, Adrienne Williams, RN and staff at Mary Crowley Medical Research Center at Baylor Hospital and Community Hospice of Texas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Bill Glass Prison Ministry, Texas Baptist Men, or Mary Crowley Medical Research Center (for Melanoma Research) at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM, Friday, March 9, 2007 at First Baptist Church of Plano with Dr. Jerry Carlisle officiating.

Interment will follow later in the day at 2:30 PM at DFW National Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6:00 – 8:00PM, Thursday, at the church.

## Memorials

*still missing you more than words could ever express. you are thought of daily and i cant wait to see you one day.... maddy and adam ask about dad all the time.... we love you so much and but know you are having the time of your life! thank you for everything my precious dad.... love you always... lara*

**LARA ELIZABETH SHERIFF, MARCH 26, 2008**

*My fond memories of Mr. Adams was the love he had for his LORD and SAVIOUR Jesus Christ and for his family. His happy home life with all of his girls are special memories I will hold dear in my heart. May you all be thankful for such a loving husband and father to have guided you all so well in life. May the Lord bless you all and comfort you. David Dean Prosper, Tx.*

**DAVID DEAN, MARCH 23, 2007**

*I did not know this man but I do have soemthing in common with him-- melanoma-I do pray for your family after having to deal with this horrible disease..... Respectfully yours Barbara Newman MPIP member*

**BARBARA NEWMAN, MARCH 21, 2007**

*dad~you are already missed so much. i am so proud to be your daughter....i have seen at least 4 liscense plates with br on them or bll! i just laugh knowing those are little God winks and your right there with me. i love you so much!!*

**LARA E SHERIFF, MARCH 16, 2007**

*Amy we are so sorry to hear about your Dad. We are praying for you and your family during this difficult time. We know how close and special your Dad was to you girls. Love, The Kidds*

**JOHN,KANDI AND MICHAEL KIDD, MARCH 11, 2007**

*I will remember Bill as one loved by his family and respected by all who knew him.*

**JAMES CICERO ADAMS, MARCH 10, 2007**

*Bill and I had service with Sears when I was with the Arlington Sears Store and*

*Bill was with Sears in the Dallas Office. Larry enjoyed working with Bill and he was a good man. Wanda and I extend our deepest sympathy to all of the family. Sincerely, Wanda and Larry O'Leary*

LAWRENCE DUNN O'LEARY, MARCH 9, 2007

*I will miss you at the Bill Glass Champions for Life Prison Weekends. God bless your family. With Love, Your Sister in Christ, Yvette Patton*

YVETTE POTTS PATTON, MARCH 9, 2007

*I worked with Bill at Enterprise. He was a fine person and a joy to be around. We certainly miss him.*

GARY PHILLIPS, MARCH 9, 2007

*Never without a smile, I'll remember how he brightened up a room! he truly was a shining light in this dark world. He was full of the holy spirit and his gentleness radiated to all. I feel so honored to have known him!*

SUZI HEMMINGHAUS DORE', MARCH 8, 2007

*Jenny and Lillie Mae, I know that Bill had a good life and enjoyed the ministry. God bless you and your family. Love, Ron*

RON GORDON, MARCH 8, 2007

*All ways busy doing for other people. all ways a friend serving the Lord*

ARDITH A DEICHMAN, MARCH 8, 2007

*I loved Dado so so so so much. I will miss him. Love, Danielle Forsyth*

DANIELLE MARIE FORSYTH, MARCH 8, 2007

*Dado was a very special man who treated me like his own granddaughter. I will miss him so much~ Love, Devon*

DEVON ELIZABETH FORSYTH, MARCH 8, 2007

*Bill was a great Christian and friend. He was a very hard worker on the Disaster Relief Team. We already miss him.*

RODNEY & KATHERINE GANT, MARCH 8, 2007

*Of course we love you all and send our deepest sympathy. We will miss your Daddo very much.*

KIM BISHOP, MARCH 8, 2007

*Bill & I met in the Sears Port Arthur store where he was credit manager and I*

*was store Controller. We partnered well to survive the opportunities presented to us in that assignment. Over the years I have been privileged to know Bill & Virginia and to work with Bill during our many years with Sears. I was again reunited with Bill at a friend's funeral at his church. Pat and I send our most sincere sympathy to the family.*

**THURSTON A. BLAKELY, MARCH 8, 2007**

*We cherish the memory of this devout Christian who introduced us to First Baptist Church, Plano. He made us aware of prison ministry opportunities for which we are grateful. We are blessed to be counted among his many friends.*

**ROBERT & FLO JENKINS, MARCH 8, 2007**

*I consider Bill one of the "family" of Bill Glass Ministries and a special friend of mine. He will be missed, but is walking those golden streets!*

**DONNA KAY MORRIS, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Great guy to work with as a teammate in the prisons!*

**JAYE ROB SMITH, MARCH 8, 2007**

*We will miss Billy Ray. We have many fond memories in our hearts. He and his family made a difference in our lives. We loved him.*

**GARY AND LOIS WALLACE, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Our memories are fond ones of the many New Years Days we spent together in Dallas. So honored to have had the opportunity to have known you. May you rest in peace forever in the Lord's home. With love and sympathy, The Posner Family Mark, Cheri, Ryan, and Evan*

**CHERI & MARK POSNER, MARCH 8, 2007**

*That of a sincere caring, and loving, man of God. He will be missed*

**CARLESS A. TALTON, MARCH 8, 2007**

*One of my best memories is the many Bill Glass Weekend of Champions evangelism events that we experienced together, along with his faithful friend Chief Lawson. Bill was one of the kindest, gentlest most Godly men that I have ever known. I know that he's sitting at the feet of his Saviour Jesus Christ right now and that he awaits the glorious reunion with others whom he has preceded. I'll see you soon, buddy!!*

**ALAN N. MANN, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Bill is one of my all-time favorite FBC Family Members, and will be one of the first I will look for in Heaven. Love to all of you ... I know your hearts are hurting. Annette*

**ANNETTE VINEYARD, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Billy Ray and I started at Sears at about the same time, and our paths crossed frequently over the years. He was always a gentleman, and a good executive. He will be missed.*

**DAN F SPENCER, MARCH 8, 2007**

*I know how much Bill will be missed by all of you. He was a wonderful friend to all. I will miss his smile and warm caring ways but I know that his work will carry on and the Lord will use his example. He is in such a better place and without pain and suffering. Please know that I will continue to pray for you during this time and days to come. May you find peace and comfort in Christ's loving hands and the love and friendships. You are all so special. If I can do anything for any of you, please don't hesitate to call upon me.*

**M SUE PENROD, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Always enjoyed working with Bill on a prison weekend, he was such an inspiration.*

**ROBERTA BROWN EDWARDS, MARCH 8, 2007**

*The love he had for others and his work at the prisons. We admired him so much for his dedication. He is sorely missed but St. Peter has him now. He welcomed Bill with open arms.*

**RUTH & BILL YANKIE, MARCH 8, 2007**

*We will never forget the many times Bill would stand up in class and tell us about his latest trip to the prisons. He reports always stated how many people were attended and how many came to know the Lord as a result of their witness. He truly had a servant's loving heart. We will miss him so much.*

**NORM & CELIA PRICE, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Billy and I started working at Enterprise Car Rental a day apart and we gravitated together like brothers. My favorite memory is going to lunch one*

*day, Billy said, " I don't want to go to BJ's for lunch, it isn't as good as prison food." I will miss Billy as he was a great support for me as I am starting to battle Melonoma, but I will miss his great smile and sense of humor, his love of family, church and country. I won't say good-bye my friend, I'll see you later.... Michael Heider*

**MICHAEL HEIDER, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this difficult time. We all loved Billy Ray and he will be greatly missed.*

**BETTY JO DRIVER, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Dear Virginia & Family, I will not be at Bill's funeral and I hope that you understand. My prayers are with you and your family. Love, Betty*

**BETTY L REEVES, MARCH 8, 2007**

*I will always hold Billy Ray close in my memories of Hall County.*

**CLARENCE "POOSE" DENTON, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Bill will always be remembered as the kind, gentle heart that he always was and his wonderful passion of helping others. He has been a shining example to all of us. He will be missed by so many. Our love to all of the family. Ken and Sue Harvey*

**MARY SUE HARVEY, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Dear Amy, Roger, & family, Our thoughts & prayers are with you at this time. May your memories of your Dad give you comfort & knowing Bill is in the Lords Kingdom fill you with peace. Respectfully, Kellie & Patrick Stramel*

**KELLIE STRAMEL, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Our prayers are with you. Billy is at peace now. God Bless You.*

**SONNY & NANCY CAMPBELL, MARCH 8, 2007**

*I worked with Bill at Enterprise these past few years. We both grew up in West Texas and shared a lot of fond memories of the area. We will miss this kind humble Christian man.*

**JOHN L. KOONSMAN, MARCH 8, 2007**

*A devoted Christian, husband and father. He was an inspiration to all of us as he went through this journey fighting melanoma.*

**JETTA MARTIN, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Mr. Adams was my first boss at Sears located at Ross Ave. He was a good man and I know he walked in the Lord's shoes. He will be missed.*

**DAVID R THORNHILL, MARCH 8, 2007**

*My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of sorrow in your life. I pray that the Lord will ease your pain and let your memories fill you with joy.*

**LYNNE M VASTERLING, MARCH 8, 2007**

*Bill was a wonderful Christian man. We appreciate his faithfulness to God and his church.*

**BOB & CAROL CHASE, MARCH 8, 2007**

*You are in our thoughts and prayers*

**GARY AND CINDY SHORTNACY, MARCH 8, 2007**

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