



Gary "Sonny" Stafford, Jr.

October 28, 1942 - May 18, 2024

GARY BERNARD "SONNY" STAFFORD, JR., AGE 81

And a resident of Crystal Springs, Mississippi passed away peacefully Saturday night May 18, 2024 at his home. He was born in Franklinton on October 28, 1942 and was a Franklinton High School graduate Class of 1960. Sonny attended Louisiana State University before obtaining his Bachelor's Degree from William Carey College. He would achieve a Master's Degree from Southeastern Louisiana University and begin a long career in hospital management, as well as the long-term care industry. Sonny worked for the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs at hospitals in Tuscaloosa, AL, Albuquerque, NM and Providence, RI then return to Washington Parish as the Administrator of Bogalusa Community Medical Center. He would leave the hospital to join his brothers in operating the family dairy farm for a time, before managing several nursing homes in Mississippi for Beverly Enterprises. Sonny honorably served the residents, their families and countless staff members at nursing homes in Tylertown, McComb, Flowood and Monticello before retiring. In his younger years, Sonny served his community and country in the Army-National Guard. He enjoyed coin collecting as a hobby, but his most important pastime was always spending time with his family. Sonny loved his wife and sons with all his heart and he adored each of his grandchildren. He also cherished the time he spent with his siblings and his large extended family at the old family farm for holidays and special

occasions.

He is survived by:

Wife: Elizabeth "Libby" Sumners Stafford of Crystal Springs

4 Sons and Daughters in law: Ken and Mary Bea Johnson of Bardstown, KY
Chris and Mindy Johnson of Versailles, KY,
Kevin and Julie Johnson of Brandon, MS,
Steven and Kelly Stafford of Madison, MS

Grandchildren: James Russell Johnson,
Bailey Johnson Shultz and Kevin Shultz,
McKenna Johnson,
Noah Johnson,
Colton Johnson,
Ty Johnson,
Walker Johnson,
Deacon Johnson,
Charlie Stafford,
Sarah Bryant Stafford

Siblings and Spouses: Judy Simmons,
Joe and Carlene Stafford,
Jill and Ted Bulloch,
Robert and Jana Stafford,
Nancy and Leonard Duvic,
Kim and Marlon Milton

Sister in law and Brother in law: Mary Alice and Gene Loden of Saltillo, MS

Also numerous beloved nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

He was preceded in death by an infant son Robert Felder Stafford, his parents Gary B. Stafford, Sr. and Josie Bateman Stafford, a young sister Sue Ellen Stafford, brother in law Reggie Simmons and other family members.

Following a private family graveside service, Sonny will be laid to rest in the Fisher United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Obituaries can be viewed online at www.crainfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gary "Sonny" Stafford, Jr..*



May 22, 2024 at 04:13 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to you Libby, and the families Gary loved so much. May he rest in peace in the sweet arms of Jesus.*



Judy McCasland Micelle - May 22, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ *Sorry to hear about Gary. We served in the National Guard together. Enjoyed his post on FB, always agreed.*

Devon and Delores Thomas - May 21, 2024 at 09:30 PM



“ *I did not know him, but he sounded like such an interesting man. I would've loved to hear his stories. 🙏 Prayers for his loved ones*



Mechelle Black - May 21, 2024 at 05:33 PM

LB

“ So Sorry for your Loss. Prayers for strength and peace in the coming days. LORD GOD PLEASE BLESS THESE FAMILIES 🙏🙏🙏



Loretta Bracey 💜



Loretta Bracey - May 20, 2024 at 11:57 PM

JN

“ Thoughts and prayers

Jennifer Nielson - May 20, 2024 at 07:45 PM

CB

I sure will miss Gary-he and I had a good time agreeing on FB! I always thought a lot of him and his wife- his family was so close and I know it will be a void in all their hearts! Prayers for all of you!! 🙏❤️

cornell bond - May 20, 2024 at 08:25 PM

JA

Libby, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Janie Arguelles

Janie Arguelles - May 20, 2024 at 10:33 PM

PC

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers go out to the family.



Paulette Crain - May 20, 2024 at 05:46 PM

SB

“ *Susan Barber lit a candle in memory of Gary
"Sonny" Stafford, Jr.*



Susan Barber - May 20, 2024 at 04:48 PM