



Bige Edward Wray

January 22, 1946 - December 23, 2018

Bige Edward Wray, age 72 of Searcy, returned to the Father Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018. He was born Jan. 22, 1946 in Harrison, Arkansas to Lex Elmo and Carrie Eunice Wray. He was an outdoorsman and loved all things in nature and shared that enthusiasm with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Lisa McCollum Wray; and his greatest accomplishments, his children, Stacy Wray McKean and husband Brian of Bella Vista; Julia Elizabeth Wray of Springdale; and Kyle McCollum Wray and wife Audrey of Searcy; grandchildren Nate and Kellen Edwards and Wyeth McKean, Krews, Kole and Arabella Wray; Brother John Wray and Jeannie of Harrison; Sisters-in-love Allision and husband Gene of Forrest City, Bonner McCollum of Conway, Libby Thalheimer and husband Lee of Little Rock, and brother-in-love Rick McCollum and wife Maureen of Forrest City; along with a multitude of adoring nieces and nephews.

The legendary track star began his career on the Harrison High School track team where he ran undefeated throughout his high school career and through his freshman season at the U of A. While there, he led the Razorback track team to numerous Southwest Conference championships while setting the collegiate record of 1:49.3 in the 880-yard dash his senior year. He was a member of the Razorback cross county championship team as well. He was inducted into the inaugural class of the Harrison Goblin Sports Hall of Fame in 1999 and into the Arkansas Track Hall of Fame in 2005. After his retirement, he devoted his life to the many ministries at the First United Methodist Church

in Searcy, not limited to The Lunch Bunch Feeding Ministry and mentoring many young children by shining his light full of warm hugs and words of encouragement in their afterschool programs. He was a bright shining star in this world and his star shines brighter because of his legacy of love and light. Shine on Biggie.

The family will host a visitation for friends in their home on Wednesday from 5:00 until 7:00 pm. There will also be a visitation on Thursday from 1:00 until 2:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church of Searcy. A memorial service will follow at 2:00 pm at the church.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **26**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wray Family Home
104 Tara Court
Searcy, AR 72143

Visitation

DEC **27**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
Searcy, AR 72143

Memorial Service

DEC **27**. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
Searcy, AR 72143

Tribute Wall

PG

“ Our hearts were saddened to hear of Mr. Wray's passing. We know He is safe in the arms of Jesus and we must find comfort knowing that. We met the Wrays shortly after our arrival in Searcy in July 2002. We were blessed to know them. Our prayers are with Lisa and the family.....Pastor William and Debora Gant

Pastor William and Debora Gant - January 25, 2019 at 08:11 PM

BL

“ Dwayne and I are saddened to hear of your loss. May the Lord provide comfort to you at this time of sorrow. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Belinda LaForce - December 27, 2018 at 04:46 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.



December 27, 2018 at 01:28 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.



December 27, 2018 at 10:39 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.*



December 27, 2018 at 09:43 AM



“ *We met Bige at the river property years ago...it was instant kindred spirits...So thankful to have met him and Lisa... Jan and Roy Stansell*

Roy L Stansell - December 27, 2018 at 07:56 AM



“ *May God bless you. We send our deepish condolences to you and your family.
Bige was a great guy and will be missed by many. We were blessed by knowing him. We will remember all our good times at the Florist Conventions.*

Chesley and Linda Robinette

Linda Robinette - December 26, 2018 at 09:15 PM



“ *Lisa, you Kyle and Julie have my sincerest condolences. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Bige was a great guy and I can still feeling him slapping me on the back at those basketball games. I hope you're able to find some peace through all the great things people will say about Bige.*

Wally Jarratt - December 26, 2018 at 08:19 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.*



December 26, 2018 at 05:08 PM



“ *Lisa, to my favorite florist. Sandy and I send our condolences and prayers to you and your family in this time of sorrow. May the good Lord comfort you and provide you with strength during this difficult time. Time will heal. Let us celebrate Bige and remember all of the good things he stood for and did for others. I will always remember our times at Golden Pond and how much he talked about your times together there under the moonlight along with all of the fishing tips he gave me.*

Craig Irsch

Craig Irsch - December 26, 2018 at 05:04 PM



Lisa, Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family at this most difficult time.

Judy Maddox - December 27, 2018 at 08:07 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.*



December 26, 2018 at 03:41 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.*



December 26, 2018 at 02:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.*



December 26, 2018 at 02:09 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bige Edward Wray.*



December 26, 2018 at 02:08 PM



“ *Lisa, Marcia and I are praying for you and your family at this time of loss.*

Danny Dobbins - December 26, 2018 at 01:12 PM