



Monty Betts

September 30, 1949 - March 30, 2011

Monty Betts, 61, of Searcy, died Wednesday, March 30, 2011. Born September 20, 1949, in Searcy, he was the son of the late Omer Otto and Billie Bernice Williams Betts. A lifelong resident of White County, he graduated from Pangburn High School, the University of Central Arkansas, and the University of Arkansas and spent 38 years in the field of education. He began his teaching career at Bradford Public Schools in 1971, then taught at Kensett, before becoming the high school principal at White County Central in 1977. In 1987, he became superintendent and retired from that position in 2008. He was then elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives 87th Assembly from District 50 and served for two years.

An avid hunter and fisherman, he was known for his great sense of humor, his storytelling abilities, his love of people, his strong Christian faith, and his desire to make a difference wherever he could. At the time of his death, he was serving as Chairman of the White County Medical Board. He was a past trustee of the AR Teacher Retirement Board, past president of AR School Administrators and a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 308. He was an ordained deacon and a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Searcy where he taught the Friendship Sunday School Class.

Monty is survived by his wife of 40 years, Laura Greer Betts; his son Blake Betts of Pangburn; his daughter Amanda Kirker and her husband Jason of

Searcy; three grandchildren, Amber Betts of Ogden, Utah; Bettsy Kirker and Jackson Kirker of Searcy; his sister, Kay Betts Moore and her husband Larry of Searcy; his sister-in-law and brother-in-law Shirley and Phil Taylor of Pocahontas; two nieces, Nicole Huddy of Searcy; Angie Smith of Lake City; two nephews, Heath Moore of Searcy; David Taylor of Memphis, TN; and a host of extended family and friends.

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Visitation will be at Powell Funeral Home in Searcy on Friday evening, April 1, from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 2, at the White County Central School Auditorium, 3259 Hwy. 157 in Judsonia. Memorials may be made to the Trinity Baptist Church Building Fund, Trinity Baptist Church, 1601 E. Moore, Searcy, AR 72143.

Arrangements by Powell Funeral Home of Searcy. www.powellfuneralhome.net

Tribute Wall

CS

“ He always made me laugh, smile, think, grow, change, and dream. I think this is the best legacy anyone can leave behind. I will see him again, this I know.

I love you Monty Betts.

Chrissy Sterling Suttner

Christal Sterling Suttner - March 29, 2013 at 02:12 PM

TS

“ My sympathies to the family. It is a great loss, but what a great man, an inspiration to us all. My memories are no different than anyone else's. He was a super guy, never a dull moment. What a true and faithful friend. Please accept my apologies for not being there, for we are out of town. I will miss him greatly. A great, great man, one of my favorite people in the world. Tom and Annette Stiffler

Tom Stiffler - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

CC

“ I'm saddened to hear about the loss of Mr. Betts. He was truly an amazing person loved by everyone. I remember him coaching me and amanda in the girls softball league. As I got older if Mr. Betts was to see me, he would always remember who I was. That meant alot to me. I know your hearts will be heavy for awhile, but know he is with the lord. At his home now there will be no more pain and suffering. You will continue to be in my prayers.

*May God Bless
Christy Chatman*

Christy Chatman - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

MM

“ I am a friend of Amanda and Jason. and am very aware of the love they both had for Monty. He was a great man that lived the life God gave him with honor and integrity. I am so sorry for your loss. Will continue to pray for your precious family.

MiMi McAfee - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

EG

“ Dear Betts Family,
My family and I wanted to express our sympathy to you at this time of loss. I remember Monty in the 6th grade in Pangburn School. That was probably in the early '60's. My brother, Jim Smith was in Laura's class at Searcy School. He also wanted me to send his condolences. You know we never forget our classmates in school, they always remain in a special place in our hearts. You will be in our prayers.

Elaine (Smith) Griggs - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

DC

“ The Christian community and the rest of the community lost a Christian friend and leader. Our love and prayers for you in these days and the days ahead. We remember his humor and his commitment to serve. David and Blanche Crouch

David & Blanche Crouch - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

DH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Monty Betts family. I had known Monty and other members of the Betts family for several years. I found all of them to be wonderful people to know and be associated with. Monty made a lasting memorial to the outstanding accomplishments he achieved during his short span of life. Now that he has been faithful to family, friends, and community, he will hear the words, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord.

Del Hughes - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

SR

“ Mr. Betts was one of my many inspirations at Kensett School to become a teacher. He truly cared for his students. I had him for biology and have many memories of stories and lessons he taught. He had a special gift for storytelling. I know when I get together with classmates some story about him seems to always come up. May God comfort your family, and may he rest in peace. I know he is missed and will always be remembered.

Sherry Rolett-Boone - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

AB

“ I miss you, Papa. I wish you were here.

Amber Betts - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to Monty Betts family and friends
Mr. Betts was one of my favorite Teacher's and Principal at Central
He always had a great story's to tell us. Even when he had to get on
to us for
Getting out of line or breaking the rules you always left he office
knowing
How much he cared for you. We will always miss him but will never
forget him*

Kimberly Russell Vicksburg MS.

April 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM