



Tony Ray Hamilton

December 8, 1955 - August 11, 2020

Reverend Tony Ray Hamilton, age 64 of Snellville, Georgia, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. He was preceded in death by his father, Dennis Hamilton; mother Rozelle Whelchel Hamilton; brothers, Billy J. Hamilton, Jimmy Ray Hamilton, Donald K. Hamilton; Bronald Hamilton and Thomas J. Hamilton. Tony leaves his legacy of love to his wife, Beverly Hamilton whom he cherished; children, Joshua Hamilton, Samuel Hamilton, Patrick Grindstaff (Anastasia), Matthew Grindstaff and Erin Grindstaff; brothers, Ronald “Dusty” Hamilton and Bobby G. Hamilton (Damita); sister, Shirley Trammell; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and a multitude of friends.

Tony was born in Clermont, Georgia, to the late Dennis and Rozelle Hamilton on December 8, 1955. He graduated from North Hall High School and went on to attend Truett McConnell University and Shorter University majoring in Music Education. During his time at Truett, Tony gave his life to the Lord and made a commitment to God to spend his days singing for Him. Most of his career was spent working for K-Mart as a Human Resources representative while simultaneously serving as interim Minister of Music at various churches and fulfilling his promise by sharing the Gospel through his concert ministry. Tony has been a long-time member of the Sons of Jubal where he made many life-long friends. He loved every moment spent with the Jubals and Jubalheirs.

In 2012, Tony was ordained and answered the call to full-time ministry at Annistown Road Baptist Church as Minister of Music and Administration. It was Tony’s passion to lead worship and teach his choir and congregation that they were singing to an audience of One. Tony recently made the transition to Senior Adult Pastor at Annistown. Tony loved people. Everyone who met him, met a friend. Tony has been very active with the Gwinnett Metro Baptist Network serving in many areas. He just recently rolled off the Executive Board of Truett McConnell University and finished his term as Alumni President. Last year, Tony was Truett McConnell University’s Alumnus of the Year. Tony enjoyed baseball, football, and playing golf, but mostly he enjoyed family. His children were his pride and joy.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held Tuesday, August 18th at 11:00 AM at Snellville First Baptist Church, Snellville, GA. Mr. Hamilton will lie in state one hour prior to service at the church. The family will receive friends on Monday, August 17th from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Tom M. Wages Snellville Chapel, Snellville, GA.

Due to the current COVID-19 regulations, our staff is committed to taking care of our guests and families that we serve. Please understand that we will be limiting the amount of people at our chapel for visitations and services. We also ask all guests and family members attending visitations and services to please bring and wear a mask.

You can view the service on Tom M. Wages Funeral Service Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/Tom-M-Wages-Funeral-Service-108741755841468/>.

Condolences may be sent or viewed at www.wagesfuneralhome.com. Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, A Family Company, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Events

AUG **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

17

Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

AUG **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

17

Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

AUG **Celebration of Life** 11:00AM

18

First Baptist Church Snellville
2400 Main Street E, Snellville, GA, US, 30078

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - August 18, 2020 at 08:07 AM



“ It is with great sadness that my family lost such a true, Godly inspiration but we know that you are singing g in that heavenly choir. You were always there for us even if it were just a smike or a hug! We love you and will miss you dearly. Love Tina & Brittany

Tina Cooper - August 18, 2020 at 10:52 AM



“ Mrs. Hamilton, Joshua, & Samuel,
I'm so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts & prayers!
With deepest sympathy,
Terry Fung

terry fung - August 18, 2020 at 10:13 PM



“ To Tony's family - so very sorry for your loss. I was another North Hall band member with Tony, and he was such a kind and talented person.

Dianna McCall Massey - August 22, 2020 at 06:52 PM



“ Tony was my coworker, my boss, my mentor but most of all my friend. He was always there for me when I needed a friend. We had not been in touch for some time till a few months ago. He was there in the most devastating time of my life. I will never forget him. Wanda Crumbley

Wanda Crumbley - August 19, 2020 at 12:43 PM



“ Tony was such a caring man. He always had words of encouragement when I was worried or upset. When my aunt passed from Cancer and I was so upset and said it wasn't fair. He reminded me that God doesn't make mistakes and we would see her again. Although I regret never having heard him sing in person I have been watching some of the videos posted and I know the heavens are rejoicing with his amazing voice. Praying for his family and friends during this difficult time. RIP my dear friend. I will never forget you or your wonderful smile.

Stacy Mammana - August 18, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ My condolences on the passing of Tony. Although I only met him once, we have been blessed to make Sam an adopted member of our family. I know Tony was proud of his kids, and Sam will carry on his father's love of vocal music through his own God-given talents. Rest in peace, Sir, and sing away in Glory. Memory eternal.

Laurie Dennis - August 18, 2020 at 09:26 AM



“ Good Morning
My heart is heavy find out out about
Pastor Tony i met him when i first start at
Annistown Church move here in 2012 from Detroit.
He was a great Pastor very supported i admire that about him iwas in the Deaf
ministry, at Annistown Church.
I had a situation were i need to talk to him last year. Went to thr Church he gave me
great advice on what i should do. I will miss him great smile very helpful to every one.
Pastor Tony you gain your wings.
Watch over your family.
Mrs Beverly
My Condolences to you and your family sorry for i ask God to gove you straight and
comfort you and your family, in Jesus name I Pray Amen.
This is my Number call any time
678 374 6380 this Glenda Thomas



Glenda Thomas - August 18, 2020 at 07:41 AM



“ To the family of Tony Hamilton-- my deepest condolences for a life gone too soon. Tony graduated from North Hall the year before I started. But as a person in the HS band, we always enjoyed Tony being around. After he graduated, it was like he never really had left. He was always very supportive of the band and we enjoyed having him with us. In later years, I was in the Northwinds Symphony and remember Tony joining us to sing a couple of times. His voice was definitely a gift and sadly that give will no longer be shared here on Earth, but the heavens will rejoice having his voice above.

Becky Smith - August 17, 2020 at 09:41 PM



“ I was shocked and overwhelmed with sadness when I heard of Tony's passing. I have not seen him in years and years, except on Facebook and maybe that probably played a part in me being so overcome with grief too. I wish I would have made it a point to see him and hear him sing again, and to let him know how much he meant to all of us in our youth at the church. I have also been so sad for all those close to him that he has left behind. He is such a kind, compassionate man whom everyone loves and I know him leaving would leave a huge void in their lives. I know he is dwelling in the house of our Lord and is singing heavenly praises to Jesus and I'm so happy for him. I first met Tony at First Baptist Church Gainesville when he sang with our choir and went on choir/mission trips with us. Tony's smile, voice and Christian presence was huge in all of our lives throughout my church experience while at FBC. He also hired me for one of my first jobs at K-Mart in Gainesville. Tony's presence in my life meant a lot to my early Christian walk. My heart goes out to you, Beverly, and his children and all of his family and friends. What an honor to have a husband/father/family and friend in him. What a legacy he leaves.

Stacey Roberts - August 17, 2020 at 09:30 PM



“ T Wray lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



T Wray - August 17, 2020 at 08:52 PM



“ I'll always cherish the memory of Tony singing at my Rachel's funeral, and the mutual respect and friendship that we shared. Jerry Pless

Jerry Pless - August 17, 2020 at 06:50 PM



“ Amanda Randolph purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



Amanda Randolph - August 17, 2020 at 01:46 PM



“ I've been fortunate to know Tony since I was a 4th grader going to North Hall after school for band and he made sure no one was picking on me. Over the years as we were in band and chorus together Tony became like a big brother. Tony always had a smile and hug for me. My daughters always wanted to go see Mr. Tony when we would come home to Gainesville for a visit. One of my favorite memories of Tony was when he and a friend picked up Mr. Forester's VW Bug and moved it onto the covered walkway at NHHS between the support posts so the doors couldn't open. The world has lost a light but that smile will never be forgotten. I will see you again in heaven my friend.

Sherrie Lewis - August 17, 2020 at 11:42 AM



“ Hello Ms. Beverly. My daughter and I attend Annistown Road Church for a few months when Pastor Joe Lewis started as the Sr. Pastor. My daughter and I first met you at the ARC “Annistown’s Got Talent” show last year, when my daughter and her friend played their recorder. A fond memory that I have of Tony is the Sister-Act performance he, yourself and others displayed during the show. That wig he wore was something else and the skit made us laugh. Also, his singing was absolutely incredible and I always enjoyed his worship/talk to the congregation as the choir sang. Such a wonderful man, and a beautiful couple and family you had together. My sincere condolences to you, your children, and to the Annistown Road Church family.



Carolyn Young - August 17, 2020 at 10:45 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



August 17, 2020 at 09:06 AM



“ 61 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - August 17, 2020 at 08:41 AM



“ Star Johnson lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



star Johnson - August 16, 2020 at 10:41 PM



“ The first thing I think about when I think of Tony Hamilton is his beautiful smile. Then, I think about how he had a hug for everyone. He was so full of joy and served our Lord faithfully with passion. He led the choir at Calvary Baptist, Lilburn by example to praise and worship our living Savior.

Love and hugs to his family and close friends. The angel choir gained an amazing voice.

Lisa Maness

Lisa Maness - August 16, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ My friend where do I start, I met Tony in 1993 when we were preparing to open Super K in Gainesville, he was the HR Manager. I think he knew everyone in the town , people called him the mayor. Tony never met a stranger, was always positive and a smile on his face. He was one of the best friends anyone could have. I am going to miss him but I know one day I will see him again , until sing with the angels my friend.

Beverly and family thoughts and prayers for you during this time.



Cricket Jones - August 16, 2020 at 08:46 PM



“ My memories of Tony at Kmart was you loved being around him because he was always smiling and had such a positive outlook on everything. My deepest condolences to his family. RIP my friend

Janine Smith - August 16, 2020 at 03:53 PM



“ I was always fond of Tony. He was genuinely interested in others which why I enjoyed my recruiting trips for Kmart with him. Heaven gained an angel and we will all miss his beautiful smile.

John Pickert - August 16, 2020 at 12:06 PM



“ Tony was such a bright soul with a smile that could light up a room. I always looked up to him. He made the world a better place. Prayers to the family.

Wynn Westmoreland - August 16, 2020 at 07:38 AM



“ Beverly, Joshua & Samuel please accept our deepest sympathy and love. Prayers for each of you. There is comfort knowing that Tony is indeed singing with the angels.



Jimmy & Lucary Henson - August 15, 2020 at 11:34 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the family. Former Kmart employee. Delores Lamarr



Delores Lamarr - August 15, 2020 at 10:37 PM



“ Kim Carney lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Kim Carney - August 15, 2020 at 09:09 PM



“ My first job was at Kmart and Tony could tell I was scared and he sat down with me and told everything was going to be fine and that I would caught on fast before we left he asked me if he could say a prayer with me. RIP My Friend I'm sitting down saying a prayer May God be with your family.

Shirley Fuller - August 15, 2020 at 07:18 PM



“ Shirley Fuller lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Shirley Fuller - August 15, 2020 at 07:13 PM



“ Guy and Diane Edge purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



Guy and Diane Edge - August 15, 2020 at 02:10 PM



“ Our condolences and prayers at Tony’s passing. Tony was a great friend from Shorter College days. I reconnected with him after seminary when I served a church in Gainesville. His transition to the Lord’s presence leaves a big hole for us here, but we are blessed with a lot of great memories. We will keep his family in our prayers.
Alan Hix

Alan Hix - August 15, 2020 at 10:50 AM



“ Mary Torok lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Mary Torok - August 15, 2020 at 08:26 AM



“ Tony was a friend to all of us in the Jubal family. Always a smile for me and my wife Marla. His shoes will be hard to fill, for he was an awesome Jubal. Condolences to Beverly and the family.
Dennis & Marla Chalker

Dennis W. Chalker - August 14, 2020 at 10:29 PM



“ Phyllis Townsend lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Phyllis Townsend - August 14, 2020 at 09:49 PM



“ Attended church at Concord Baptist with Roselle and Tony. Also, rode the bus together at North Hall.
Tony and his family are great people. He let God guide him and he was a great witness.
To all his family, Im sorry for your loss.
Joel Head

Joel Head - August 14, 2020 at 08:27 PM



“ My condolences to the Hamilton family. Thank you Tony for the light that shined through you every Sunday morning, I looked forward to hearing your singing during our praise and worship at Annistown. You will truly be missed, I can still hear your powerful voice singing. Thank you

Traci - August 14, 2020 at 07:54 PM



“ We were shocked and saddened to hear that Tony had passed away. We will miss him so much. The ARC Joy Singers and the residents at Cambridge (formerly New London) Health Center loved having Tony lead us in singing old gospel hymns. And when Tony would sing a solo -- a capella, of course -- and modulate to a higher key, and then hit and hold the last high note of the song, the residents sat mesmerized, and then we would all applaud with great enthusiasm!

One of my fondest remembrances about Tony was when I said to him, in your presence, Beverly: "If I were married to you, Tony, I'd make you sing to me every night!" And he said, "No way. Never." I think I scolded him for not singing to you, Beverly!

We will keep you in our prayers and will ask God to wrap his arms around you and comfort you during this sad time.

Love,

Louise & Floyd Fawcett

Louise Fawcett - August 14, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Tony was a sweet, caring and friendly man. Tony will always hold a special place in our family's heart. We will miss seeing his smile and hearing his amazing voice.

Praying for his family and friends.

Love,

Johnny and Elizabeth Ledford

Elizabeth Ledford - August 14, 2020 at 01:23 PM



“ My deepest condolences thoughts and prayers are with the family. He's singing with the heavenly choir



Pamela Jackson - August 14, 2020 at 12:28 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



August 14, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ I graduated with Tony. I never met him in the hall without seeing a smile on his face. Same goes for the years that have passed since we graduated, at kmart, class reunion or just seeing him on Facebook, always a beautiful smile. He was a true Christian and I know he is having a great time singing in God's choir. Until we meet again!

Jeanette Cleveland Smith

Jeanette - August 14, 2020 at 10:22 AM



“ My prayers are with all the family!

Jeanette Smith - August 14, 2020 at 02:51 PM



“ Jeanette & Danny Smith lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Jeanette & Danny Smith - August 14, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ Tony lived about a 1/8 of a mile from us in Clermont. He was a true friend. The thing I remember most is how much Tony loved playing Baseball. He was a very talented person who will be missed. May God be with the family in this time of grief.

Scottie Chambers - August 14, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ I was in shock when I heard of Tony's passing. He and I worked together for 12 years at Kmart. He was a very special and caring person. Always loved my boys and took time to play with them when I brought them in the store. Such a loving and Godly man. My prayers are with you and the boys Beverly through this difficult time. May God pour out His love and blessings on you all above and beyond!

Tammy Moon

Tammy Moon - August 14, 2020 at 09:38 AM



“ Tony made youth group mission trips the best memories of my life! He was an incredible friend to my dad. He was an incredible leader/mentor to the youth group. And, he was an incredible spirit!

Kel Lee Cutrell - August 14, 2020 at 09:29 AM



“ Kel L. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



Kel L. - August 14, 2020 at 09:27 AM



“ My life long friend, you are gone from here, but will always live on in my memories. My prayers for you Beverly and all the family. R.I.P, Tony until we meet again. Love you.

Martha Underwood - August 14, 2020 at 09:20 AM



“ Martha Underwood lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Martha Underwood - August 14, 2020 at 09:15 AM



“ Tony was such a bigger than life person. He was many things but first and foremost he was God’s man. He loved the Lord and lived his life as a humble servant of Jesus. He will be missed but praising God that this is not good bye, this is we will see you again!

Debbie Jones - August 13, 2020 at 11:10 PM



“ I first met Tony when he was a manager at Kmart. He was a very fine Christian man and I am a better person for knowing him. He also had an amazing singing voice.

Becky Forrester - August 14, 2020 at 09:19 AM



“ Tony was one of the most positive and joyful people I’ve ever met. He loved the Lord, and he always was such an encouragement to me in my music. I’m so thankful that I knew him! He was loved by so many. Praying for his family.

jennifer cagle - August 13, 2020 at 10:40 PM



“ Keysha Hamilton lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Keysha Hamilton - August 13, 2020 at 09:52 PM



“ Tony and I were in high school band together playing the trumpet. He had more skill than I did. I had a great deal of admiration and respect for him. My most heartfelt love to all concerned. I do have an idea I will see my friend Tony in heaven though. We'll both get to hit those octaves for eternity. A life lived well by a good and faithful servant.

Phil Stowers - August 13, 2020 at 05:21 PM



“ Tony was a bright and shining light among his North Hall Class of 74 friends. Never did we think that last August at our 45th Reunion it would be the last time many of would be seeing him for the last time here on Earth. What a big and beautiful life! He was our friend and we loved him and will always miss him. Many prayers for his family. I am sure the void is large but I know there are tons of great memories yall are carrying with you. I hope that bring you great comfort in the days ahead, until we will all meet again someday!

Beverly Buffington
NHHS Class of 74

Beverly Buffington - August 13, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Tony at Class Reunion



Beverly Buffington - August 13, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ Cathy Robinson lit a candle in memory of Tony Ray Hamilton



Cathy Robinson - August 13, 2020 at 04:42 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



August 13, 2020 at 04:24 PM



“ Tony was such a great guy! I got to know him at NHHS her was the sweetest guys, nothing he wouldn't do for anyone!continued to keep in touch over the years when he worked at K Mart and heard him sing many times ! He will truly be missed by everyone that knew him! Praying for peace and comfort for his family and friends! God speed my friend!

cherry Abernathy - August 13, 2020 at 04:12 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tony Ray Hamilton.



August 13, 2020 at 03:48 PM



“ I was blessed to sing tenor in the Sons of Jubal along with Tony. He was such a blessing to me and to so many others. The last time I heard him sing "washed away " and then added his personal testimony at the end wow! Looking forward to seeing him again when we meet in glory.

John W Carlton - August 13, 2020 at 02:54 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Tony Hamilton



Phyllis - August 13, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ My husband & I knew Tony in different times of our lives. Jim knew Tony & his family at Concord Baptist Church in Clermont. I knew Tony as the main singer at my daughter's wedding at First United Methodist Church in Gainesville. He was one of the greatest gospel singers I have ever heard. I am sure he touched many people's lives as a devout Christian man & will be missed by many. Our heartfelt sympathy to you Beverly & family. Heaven has gained an angel in heavens choir. May God give you peace & comfort during this difficult time.

Jim & JoAnn Cantrell

Jim & JoAnn Cantrell - August 16, 2020 at 03:41 PM