



Mr. Bernard N. Austin

February 24, 1950 - April 4, 2019

Mr. Bernard Nathaniel “Bernie” Austin died peacefully at Obici Hospital on April 4, 2019, in Suffolk, VA, at the age of 69, after a brief illness.

Bernard is survived by his wife of 29 years, Sandra Austin; children, Gwensette L. Alston, and Bryan B. Austin; siblings, James W. Austin of Tallahassee, FL, David Austin of Newport News, VA, and Sandra Hogan, M.D., of Georgia; his father-in-law, William D. Capehart of Newport News, VA; two brothers-in-law, David D. Capehart (Cheryl) of Richmond, VA, and Daniel C. Capehart (Anna) of Woodbridge, VA; and special children he cared for: Beverly Childress, Cynthia Palmer, and James Harris. He is preceded in death by his parents: James W. Austin and Alma Banks Austin, and one sister; Pearl Yvonne Ferguson, of Hampton, VA.

Bernard was born, the youngest of five children, to James and Alma Austin on February 24, 1950 in Hampton, VA. At an early age he was baptized and became a member of Gray’s Missionary Baptist Church in Hampton, VA. He graduated from Phoenix High School in 1968. After graduating, he obtained his commercial driver’s license and began working as a short distance truck driver for several local hauling companies. In 1986, Bernie began working for the Virginia Department of Transportation as a safety service patroller. It was in this capacity that he met his life’s love, Sandra Ruth Capehart, also a VDOT employee. The couple married on November 25, 1989, at Antioch Baptist

Church in Newport News, where Bernie became a member.

Bernie was an avid classic car restorer, who prior to passing was restoring his dream car – a 1963 ½ Ford Galaxy XL 500. He was a no-nonsense, vivacious, dedicated family man, who loved to cook. His specialty was baking, and his most requested dessert was an old-fashioned, homemade banana pudding. In addition to his baking skills, Bernie had a green thumb and enjoyed nurturing his plants. If you were in his presence during football season, you would quickly learn that Bernie was a devoted Green Bay Packers fan.

Bernard lived his final years in Suffolk, VA, where he relocated to in 2014. After moving to Suffolk, he adopted the Evans family, who lovingly called him “Uncle Bernie”. Bernie was also a beagle lover and will be missed by his puppy, Nate. Bernard lived life to its fullest and leaves a legacy of passion for life, those he loved, and pursuing what he loved.

Cemetery Details

Hampton Memorial Gardens

155 Butler Farm Rd.
Hampton, VA 23666

Previous Events

Public Viewing

APR **10**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

M.E. Fisher Funeral Home
2117 Madison Avenue
Newport News, VA 23607
(757) 245-3302
mark@mefisherfuneralhome.com
<https://www.mefisherfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

APR **11**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Antioch Baptist Church
2819 Roanoke Avenue
Newport News, VA 23607

Tribute Wall



“ *M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Bernard N. Austin*



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - April 09, 2019 at 02:54 PM

FW

You will always be remembered from the Whitlow Family

Frank Whitlow - April 09, 2019 at 08:45 PM

AP

“ *Sandra, remember the good times.*

Annie R. Pollard - April 23, 2019 at 04:15 PM

SG

“ *So sorry for the family. Richard and I just love MrAustin.
Many prayers 🙏🙏🙏*

Stephanie Golladay - April 12, 2019 at 07:51 AM

MR

“ *Gwen Austin and Family,*

*My sincere condolences in the transition of your loved one.
May the Love and Peace of God Cover and Comfort you all during
this time.*

Love and Prayers,

*Monika Robinson, Prince George's County Maryland (One Accord
Events)*

Monika Robinson - April 11, 2019 at 09:00 AM

FA

“ *To The Family Of Mr. Bernard Austin:I was with Bernard for 29
years and we were family.We shared a space for 14 years in the
control room of MMMBT, we talked cars ,shared food,talked all of
our family problems.We both had a few on them.We were both
raising sons.We both retired from V-DOT and we kept in touch. I will
miss Bernie an I hope the best for his family .Love you Sandy.God
bless.*

Franklin Allen

Franklin Allen - April 10, 2019 at 05:06 PM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased
for the family of Mr. Bernard N. Austin.*



April 10, 2019 at 12:50 PM

NO

“ Sending my condolences from the Outlaw family! May you find strength and peace that comes from our Lord and Savior during this difficult time.

Nichole Outlaw-Branch.

Nichole Outlaw-Branch - April 10, 2019 at 12:32 PM

DS

“ To The Family Of Mr. Bernard Austin:
Reverend Austin, We, the Spratley-Jakes Family send our condolences to you for the loss of your dear Bernard. We will miss the caring and kindness he showed us throughout the years. We will always remember the awesome job he did as the photographer at our daughter's wedding in June 1993. May God continue to bring you comfort during this difficult time.



Mr. Frederick D., Deacon Dr..Sylvia E. Deacon Antonio D. & Mrs.. Karen A Spratley-Jakes

Dr. Sylvia E. & Mr. Frederick D Spratley - April 09, 2019 at 09:53 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Bernard N. Austin.*



April 09, 2019 at 05:06 PM



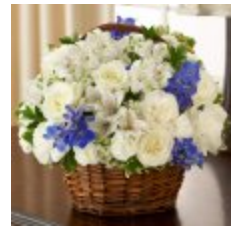
“ 36 files added to the album Life Tributes



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - April 09, 2019 at 01:48 PM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Bernard N. Austin.



April 09, 2019 at 08:54 AM



“ Sandi and Bryan I pray the peace of God sustain you. Remember and think on the good times God blessed you to have with Bernie. May you be comforted knowing your love one is with the Lord. Love in Christ, Enes Morgan



Enes L. Morgan - April 08, 2019 at 08:50 PM

HM

“ *Henry Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bernard N. Austin*



Henry Mitchell - April 08, 2019 at 03:25 PM


Andrew
Smith

“ *I am so sad and sorry to hear of the loss of Bernie. His love for his family and passion of vehicles are the things I will always remember about him ,and that amazing banana pudding. Rest easy my friend.*

Andrew Smith - April 06, 2019 at 02:31 PM



“ *Rest In Peace
Bernard N. Austin
My Mentor, Biggest Supporter, My inspiration, the man who loved me most on this Earth and last but certainly not the least My Father*



I Love You Dad ❤️




Bryan Austin - April 06, 2019 at 02:30 PM

PW

“ *prayers are with the family.*

pat watlington - April 06, 2019 at 02:08 PM



Patty
Karalfa

“ *There are so many memories from over the 20 years I worked with him. What I will remember most is his big beautiful heart and his cooking tips. We were all one big happy 2-10 family. I love him so. Thanks my Bernie for all your love & advice. You'll forever hold a piece of my heart.*

Patty Karalfa - April 05, 2019 at 07:21 PM