



## Rhonda Martin West

December 28, 1955 - December 3, 2013

WEST, Rhonda Martin, 57, a resident of Elmore County, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, December 3, 2013. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2013 from Prattville Wesleyan Church at 2:00 p.m. with Reverend Tom Ward officiating. Ms. West was preceded in death by her parents, Arlie Martin and Patricia Craigo. She is survived by her four brothers, Russell (Rebecca) Martin, Robert (Cynthia) Martin, Rodney Martin, Ronald (Rebecca) Martin; extended family members; her close friends; and her pets. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to ASPCA at [www.aspca.org/donate](http://www.aspca.org/donate) in Rhonda's memory. Her smile and loving spirit will be missed by all.

# Previous Events

## Service

DEC 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Prattville Wesleyan Church  
Prattville, AL

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Robert Martin - January 07, 2014 at 07:28 PM

RM

*Eulogy Video From Her Big Brother*

Robert Martin - January 07, 2014 at 08:22 PM

RU

“ 18 files added to the album *ServicePictorals*



Russ - December 15, 2013 at 02:49 PM

RU

“ 72 files added to the album ServicePictorals



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**Russ** - December 15, 2013 at 02:44 PM

RM

“ Eulogy from her Big Brother (Part 4)

*While many of her friends experienced the love and support directed towards them, her brothers experienced that for a lifetime. After mom and dad were gone, Rhonda especially stepped it up by doing things such as calling each of us for birthdays and holidays to see whether we had reached out to the other siblings. For me the answer was often yes, but sometimes the hours and days slipped by quickly and her gentle reminder was indeed needed. She greatly appreciated and loved her 4 brothers and the honorary family member Tim Bodenheimer, but she also had 2 others that held a special place in her heart. Her biggest smiles and source of pride for several years have been Nicholas and Devon. Since they were babies they filled her heart with joy like no others. And I hope they continue to realize in the future how much love she had for them, and appreciate that she was someone very special in their lives. They also need to think of her often and make her proud as they grow into young men by staying out of trouble, treat others with kindness, and be happy.*

*I know I have left out many important people in her life, but you already know how special you were and I thank you for making her life full. There are also too many memories to cover in a short time so, even though it may hurt at times, we will just have to keep her presence alive by sharing those memories with each other. Her voice, her smile, and even her look of disapproval will be dearly missed.*

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**Russ Martin** - December 15, 2013 at 12:46 PM

“ Eulogy from her Big Brother (Part 3)

*She never found the right person to be a partner for life, but luckily she had friends, family, and pets to help fill that gap. Rhonda had two passions, possibly carried to extremes, and those two passions were shopping and animals. She loved to shop and filled all of her closets and drawers to overflow capacity, and not in just one room. But she was prudent and generally did not spend beyond her means or ignore planning for the future. She worked very hard to keep her finances stable and deserved the ability to splurge on herself. I hope Belks and Zales manage to stay in business without her.*

*Her passion and empathy for animals were intense. Her pets were loved as though they were her children, and provided an emotional stability in return. Of course, the ones dearest to her heart were Nellie Bell, Lacy, and Molly. In general she had a soft spot in her heart for all animals, and often helped find a home for strays or take them in as her own. She also was a big supporter of the ASPCA which fights against cruelty to animals. Then there was her passion for horses which was one of the few things about Rhonda that drove our dad crazy. Every Christmas and birthday dad would ask what she wanted, and her reply was, “I want a horse.” It didn’t matter how many reasons he presented as to why that could not happen, he could never get beyond “I want a horse”. So dad and mom had to decide on their own what to get her instead. She never did get a horse, and I only assume that was because she realized that her schedule and logistics would make ownership impractical for her to properly care for one.*

“ *Eulogy from her Big Brother (Part 2):*

*Now I'll turn the focus to Rhonda. While she had some exceptional harm done to her by a few people she loved, she managed to remain the Rhonda we've always known with a heart as big as they come. Her smile and that twinkle in her eyes always had an effect on you, and sometimes she used that weapon very well to her advantage. That big smile and those blue eyes could disarm you easily. Of course, she could also stare daggers at you and it was very uncomfortable being at the other end of that glare. I'm pretty sure she got a double dose of that ability from mom and dad, and then amplified it to make it her own. But mostly she was the lovable blonde energizer bunny. The energizer bunny reference is due to the fact that she was always on the go and very hard to contact. The lovable description is appropriate since she collected friends easily, and they all knew that her friendship and concern for their well-being was genuine.*

*From day one she was daddy's little princess, and it would take a lot for her to earn his disapproval. Of course, the 4 of us brothers didn't have a problem being held accountable for our actions. While she performed many of the things expected from the princess of the house, such as playing dress up and doing tap dance recitals, she also learned early on to hold her own against what would become 4 brothers. So we should probably take pride in helping her attain some of the strength and determination she used throughout her life. Of course, the stubborn streak was inherited so we can't take credit for that trait. My wife was amazed at a photo taken of the 5 of us adults playing king of the mountain on a short wall at the front door where we grew up, and there in the photo was what used to be the sweet tempered Rhonda with an intense look that was scary. Handling her brothers was also helped by getting an early start being born before 3 of the brothers. I suspect being the 2nd born was the beginning of her not being on time, since I'm pretty sure she wanted my role of being the oldest and in charge.*

Russ Martin - December 15, 2013 at 12:42 PM

RM

“ *Eulogy from her Big Brother (Part 1):*

*Before I begin talking about Rhonda, she would want everyone that helped with her care, and her spirits, know that she greatly appreciated their efforts, and was overwhelmed by the love that was returned to her in her time of need. While all those efforts were from a place of love, and provided by many people, there are a few very special thanks that need to be mentioned. One is her friend Mel who helped take care of her pets during the times her brothers couldn't. Then there are the efforts of our brother Rodney in providing care and support in an impressive manner, especially in regards to handling her finances and medical coordination. As far as the efforts from brother Robert and wife Cindy, words can't express the appreciation deserved for their extreme sacrifices in becoming full-time caregivers in their home, with the occasional break provided by the rest of us over the past 19 months. Even though there were many sacrifices involved in providing support, it wasn't a burden without its rewards, plus the weight of those efforts were lessened by love. During this battle fought by Rhonda we enjoyed some great moments of laughter and tenderness. Even during some of the difficult caregiving activities, we would all have to laugh as our efforts would initially resemble the 3 Stooges or the Keystone Cops. Robert wanted to convey one of those tender moments: Rhonda wasn't supposed to eat 2 hours before her medication, and after giving her the medication he worked to make her comfortable -- and finds a partial bag of M&M's under the pillow someone snuck in to her. Of course, she gave him one of those adorable guilty looks that wasn't truly apologetic for breaking the rules.*

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Russ Martin - December 15, 2013 at 12:41 PM

RM

“ A several weeks ago, I told Rhonda how I described her to my family and friends:

*After spending time with her family, friends, animals, and working all hours of the day, Rhonda loves to shop, especially for bargains. Give her \$200 and 3 days and she would come back with a nice evening gown, shoes and bag to match, and probably a nice little tiara to go with it.*

*Rhonda piped up with, “And then some!”*

*She was right. I had forgotten the free mani-pedi she would have gotten when she picked up the discounted promotional items at the Estee Lauder counter. And the perfectly tasteful costume jewelry she would have spotted on the 75% off table that would have set off the tiara beautifully.*

*Then, after spending the necessary Rhonda-time getting photo ready, she would have arrived fashionably Rhonda-late at whatever event required the evening gown - with an appropriate gift for the host. And while she was charming everyone there, if there wasn't one already planned, she'd be organizing an after-party.*

*We'll miss ya sis.*

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**Rebecca Martin** - December 15, 2013 at 12:30 PM

VI

“ Vicki lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West



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**Vicki** - December 10, 2013 at 10:33 PM

Tony  
Seago

“ Rhonda is one of the best people I've ever known in P'ville. Just thinking about her not long ago while visiting back home, I am sad that we lost such a good lady. If you are thinking about a ole Friend to visit, You best to do so, We have lost a lot of our Friends that use to be close when we were kids. My Prayers go out to the Family, Rhonda is trully Beautiful Lady.



Tony Seago - December 10, 2013 at 12:07 AM

RW

“ Rhonda was a beautiful person. Inside and out she showed her son and grandchildren the true love of an angel here on earth. I was truly blessed to have a mother in law that was so amazing. Love you Rhonda and hope you have the peace you deserve <3

ruth west - December 06, 2013 at 07:40 PM

AC

“ I am so sorry to hear of this loss. My prayers are with all the family and friends. She certainly was a pleasure to be around. I enjoyed her smile and our conversations. Always there was something to talk about and she was so intelligent. I am so honored to have known her. May God Bless, Anita Shores Clark, Eclectic, Alabama



Anita Shores Clark - December 06, 2013 at 06:45 PM

JC

“ I am so very sorry for the loss of your sister. I have fond memories of you all. Keeping you in thought and prayer.  
Julie Israel Crowe

Julie Israel Crowe - December 06, 2013 at 06:18 PM

RU

“ 2 files added to the album Family



Russ - December 06, 2013 at 12:29 PM

MF

“ My Best Friend  
© Geraldine  
Best friends are angels,  
That God sent along.  
They always stay beside you,  
Whenever things go wrong.



*There are no words to express how much you meant to me. You always brought sunshine to the day and life was always sweeter because of you. Your kindness, thoughtfulness, and love were one of a kind and will never be forgotten. For those of us that were able to call you friend and sister, our lives were truly blessed. You will always be in my heart and a part of who I am.*

Monica Farr - December 06, 2013 at 10:33 AM

CA

“ A candle - a prayer - and a tear - Rhonda made an impression on us all. Laughter, kindness, strong, and professional... Rhonda - I will miss you...



Carmine - December 06, 2013 at 09:40 AM

DR

“ Dale And Liz Richmond lit a candle in  
memory of Rhonda Martin West



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**Dale and Liz Richmond** - December 06, 2013 at 08:08 AM

“ *In Memory of Rhonda*  
*posted by Paul Hobbs*

*I'm Free*  
*Don't grieve for me,*  
*for now I'm free*  
*I'm following the path*  
*God laid for me.*

*I took His hand*  
*when I heard Him call*  
*I turned and left it all.*

*I could not stay*  
*another day...*  
*To laugh, to love,*  
*to work, or play.*

*Tasks left undone*  
*must stay that way...*  
*I found that peace*  
*at close of day.*

*If my parting*  
*has left a void...*  
*Then fill it with*  
*remembered joy...*

*A friendship shared,*  
*a laugh, a kiss*  
*Ah yes, these things*  
*I too will miss...*

*Be not burdened*  
*with times of sorrow*  
*I wish you the sunshine*

*of tomorrow...*

*My life's been full,  
I've savored much  
Good friends, good times,  
a loved one's touch...*

*Perhaps my time  
seemed all too brief  
Don't lengthen it now  
by undue grief....*

*Lift up your hearts  
and share with me  
God wanted me now...  
He set me...Free.*

*author unknown*

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**P. Hobbs** - December 05, 2013 at 09:55 PM

CW

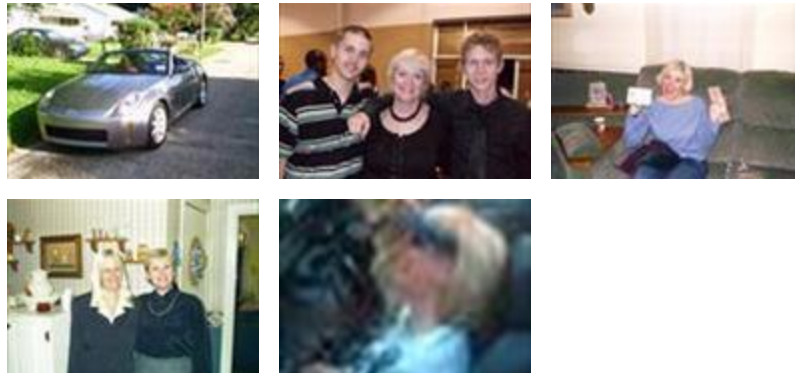
“ *I have so many great memories of Rhonda...growing up in the same neighborhood, riding our bikes, talking and laughing. I will keep her family in my prayers and I know she is now, as she has ever been, one of God's kindest and most beautiful of creations.*

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**Cindy Pattillo Whitaker** - December 05, 2013 at 05:46 PM

RM

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Robert Martin - December 05, 2013 at 05:38 PM

IW

“ When your beautiful heart stopped beating, my heart just broke in two, knowing that here on earth, there will never be another YOU. I cannot see you, but I can remember you -- your smile, your laugh, your advice, your kindness. There are just so many reasons why we love you!! Hasta luego mi amiga,

*Idalia Williams*  
"Yaya"

Ida Williams - December 05, 2013 at 02:27 PM

IW

“ *Ida Williams lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



Ida Williams - December 05, 2013 at 01:25 PM

MI

“ Mere words cannot express how saddened I am over the loss of my pr always said this and it remains; that she was undoubtedly the sweetes ever been fortunate enough to meet in my lifetime. She was always so to those who were blessed to call her “friend”. The memories of the go shared will forever be stored in a special place in my mind and heart. 7 you find comfort in the days ahead knowing you are not alone in your g being lifted that solace may find it's way to you.

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If life could only bring again, the days I took for granted when, to hear y call away. Oh what I'd give for just some time, to say the things that slip There's so much now I'd really like to say. But I can never go back whe we did back then, I'll store those precious memories in my mind. I'll tak instilled in me; I'll try to be all I can be and walk the path that you have miss you; life will never be the same with you not here. Each passing c much pain. But with God's grace my strength remains. I sure miss you, sweeter with you there. (Words and Music by Gerald Crabb)

Michelle  
Nashville, TN



Michelle - December 05, 2013 at 01:12 PM

GW

“ Georgia White sent a virtual gift in memory of Rhonda Martin West



Georgia White - December 05, 2013 at 12:46 PM

GW

*Rhonda was such a sweet and lovely person. My prayers goes out to the family members.*

**Georgia White** - December 05, 2013 at 12:50 PM

RU

“ 4 files added to the album *The Traveler*



**Russ** - December 05, 2013 at 12:45 PM

SL

“ *Sabrina Law lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



**Sabrina Law** - December 05, 2013 at 12:33 PM

RU

“ 1 file added to the album *Smiles*



**Russ** - December 05, 2013 at 12:05 PM

JO

“ I will always have fond memories of the happy, nice and sweet co-worker and friend, Rhonda West. She always showed love to me and my family. I pray God continues to comfort her family during this challenging time.

John

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**John** - December 05, 2013 at 11:52 AM

KD

“ I will never forget our graduation trip to PCB in May of 1974! Rhonda's car broke down in Dothan and we had to ride the bus from there to the beach. We still had the best time! She was the sweetest person and the best friend a person could have. I hate that I missed being around her these last years. I do know she was in my thoughts and I never stopped thinking of her with love. There is now another angel in heaven watching over us.

Kimberly Williams Deese

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**Kimberly Williams Deese** - December 05, 2013 at 11:44 AM

SM

“ Steve Manfre lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West



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**Steve Manfre** - December 05, 2013 at 10:46 AM

SR

“ *Sidnie Rose lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**Sidnie Rose** - December 05, 2013 at 10:29 AM

RB

“ *Robert & Stephanie Boswell lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**Robert & Stephanie Boswell** - December 05, 2013 at 10:28 AM

MM

“ *Our heart goes out to her family, She was a sweet person.*

*Ray & Michelle Watson*



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**Michelle McDonald** - December 05, 2013 at 09:55 AM

JC

“ *Jack & Debby Clow lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**Jack & Debby Clow** - December 05, 2013 at 09:24 AM

JW

“ Joe Watson lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West



Joe Watson - December 05, 2013 at 09:10 AM

SM

“ Sheri Monfee lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West



Sheri Monfee - December 05, 2013 at 09:06 AM

DH

“ Denise & Randy Hussey lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West



Denise & Randy Hussey - December 05, 2013 at 12:58 AM

RF

“ Ronda was such a wonderful person. I feel blessed to have known her

Roy Fullerton - December 04, 2013 at 10:13 PM

KP

“ *KATTRINA PARSONS lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**KATTRINA PARSONS** - December 04, 2013 at 09:17 PM

KP

“ *RHONDA WAS A SHINNING STAR..HER SMILE WAS NEVER ENDING..HER HEART AS BIG AS HEAVEN.. HER LOVE UNCONDITIONAL! HER WILLINGNESS TO GIVE WITHOUT A THOUGHT OF RECEIVING ANYTHING IN RETURN!!*

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**KATTRINA PARSONS** - December 04, 2013 at 09:14 PM

PL

“ *She was loved beyond words! Her gentleness and her beautiful smile will live in our hearts forever. May she rest in the peace she so deserves!!*

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**Pam Lambert** - December 04, 2013 at 09:13 PM

TT

“ *Toni Trammell lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**Toni Trammell** - December 04, 2013 at 09:12 PM

PB

“ *Pamela Battles lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**Pamela Battles** - December 04, 2013 at 08:08 PM

JG

“ *Jeff & Bev Grimes lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Martin West*



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**Jeff & Bev Grimes** - December 04, 2013 at 07:02 PM