



## Russell Clifton Lockhart

October 16, 1960 - March 10, 2014

LOCKHART, RUSSELL CLIFTON, age 53, of Prattville, took the hand of his Savior, Monday, March 10, 2014, following an extended battle with frontotemporal dementia and ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease).

A celebration of his life will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at Prattville Memorial Chapel and Memory Gardens, Rev. John Schmidt officiating. Interment will follow in the Garden of Prayer. The family will receive visitors on Wednesday evening at Prattville Memorial Chapel from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. He was born October 16, 1960 in Knoxville, TN to Douglas Clifton and Oleta Faye (Kessler) Lockhart. "Rusty" was a 1978 graduate of Prattville High School and a 1983 graduate of Auburn University earning a degree in Speech Communications. A journalist by trade, Russ spent over 15 years working for the Maxwell Dispatch on Maxwell AFB. After working at Maxwell he worked various retail positions at Dillard's and then Goodwill. He ended his working life as a help desk analyst at Gunter AFB. His favorite hobby was umpiring baseball which he did for 31 years—from little league to junior college level—21 years of which were with the Metro Montgomery Umpires Association.

Russ is survived by his devoted wife, Julie Ann (Griffin); daughter, Jessica Faye Lockhart; stepdaughter, Heather P. Sparks; sister, Cathy (Johnnie) Thomason; mother-in-law, Florence Griffin as well as a host of in-laws, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Douglas and Faye Lockhart, son, Clifton Leigh Lockhart, sister,

Cynthia Jean Guthrie and father-in-law, Carl E. Griffin. Pallbearers will be fellow Metro Montgomery Umpire Association officials. Honorary pallbearers will be Cline Countryman, Kurtis Waites, and Windle Jayroe.

The family extends their gratitude to the employees at Capitol Hill Healthcare, 2 West and to Hospice Advantage for your help in caring for Russ during his final days and hours.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 12. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Prattville Memorial Chapel and Memory Gardens  
841 Fairview Avenue  
Prattville, AL 36066  
(334) 365-7147  
prattvillememorial@live.com

## Service

MAR 13 (CT)

Prattville Memorial Chapel and Memory Gardens  
841 Fairview Avenue  
Prattville, AL 36066  
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# Tribute Wall

JU

“ You have been on my mind so much lately ... don't know why this time of year but seems like everywhere I look I see you and I seem to be calling everyone Russ these days. Maybe you are looking down on me extra these days just to ensure that I am happy and life is going good. Life is different without you but you and your sister have put together a puzzle that I never would have dreamed of ... you are both with us everyday and helping us work through issues that used to be big rocks. Know that you are never forgotten ... that you are here every day and that it doesn't take much to spark a memory with you. You are one special person to a lot of people and I know that you know that. Miss you but am so glad that you are healed and whole again. I wouldn't change that even if I could. Hope you have a great father's day with Clifton and your own dad ... maybe you even visited with my dad! Miss you guys so much!!! Love you!!

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**Julie** - June 22, 2018 at 10:25 AM

JU

“ WOW!! What a difference a year makes!! It is so hard to believe that a year ago today started the downward spiral with you!! You loved me so much that you were fighting to live a life with no quality for you to be here with me ... I couldn't ask you to continue that fight. This weekend a year ago was such a blur and then to have the phone call at 3:20 a.m. on Monday morning telling me you were gone was just the beginning of yet another process in life. We said goodbye to you a couple of days later and we were forced to get on with a life without you. All I can say is Thank GOD that He did not allow you to suffer in the end, that He took you swiftly when the time came and took away all of your pain and suffering!! Thank you for being a part of my life and for claiming your spot in my heart ... regardless of what the future holds, you have impacted my life in such a way many folks were unable to. Thank you so much for your love and your acceptance to what my life is becoming, you have given me peace and freedom to carry out my life and for that I am forever grateful!! I will always love you and will always hold you in my heart!!

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**Julie** - March 05, 2015 at 01:24 PM

JU

“ Well babe, we made it through Christmas without you here with us ... I'm not really sure how but we did! It really seemed like just another day for me without you. I really can't put into words how much I miss you at this point. Folks say time makes it easier but I'm still waiting for that time! I know you had a wonderful Christmas with your parents, Cindi and Clifton and the rest of the family--I almost envy where you are!! Tomorrow is New Year's Eve and unless things change I'll be bringing in the year just as another day ... just don't want to celebrate it alone without you. I miss you and I love you!! On another note, baseball is getting ready to kick off ... I know you can do baseball anytime you get ready now though but the guys are gearing up for the season. I can just see you getting the itch and practicing your mechanics in the mirror--you really used to make us laugh with that one. I just come across so many memories of you these days ... you just don't know how often I want to see that twinkle in your eye and feel your arms around me. Love you babe!!

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**Julie** - December 30, 2014 at 09:16 AM

JU

“ Thanksgiving is here and I can say I'm kind of lost without having you around!! Trying to plan a dinner and time with the family has been hard because you are missing from the piece of the puzzle of our lives. I will say though that I do have so much to be thankful for this year and one of those things is that you are no longer suffering and going through all that you went through the last several years. One of the things I miss most about you is that twinkle in your eye and seeing you light the room up when I walk in ... remember that you hold a place in my heart as well as a piece of my heart with you. Happy Thanksgiving babe ... I know you will be feasting on the love surrounding you!! Miss you bunches!!! Love you!!

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**Julie** - November 26, 2014 at 10:39 AM

JU

“ Well, we have made it 6 months without you ... some days it seems like forever and others it seems like this morning. Life is becoming routine without you in it but I don't know that it will ever be fully complete. There is so many things I miss with you being gone ... that twinkle in your eyes, the way you lit up when I walked in the room, the hugs and just the quiet times that we had together. I often think about taking a trip to the mountains but I'm almost afraid to do that since you are gone--we shared some great memories there. I may not have had a lifetime with you but I had a great life while I was with you!! Just know that I love you and miss you!!!! Always remember the word we learned about 8 years ago ... SHMILY ... remember that one!!!

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**Julie** - September 11, 2014 at 03:23 PM

JU

“ Hard to believe that it has been almost 3 months since we said goodbye to you ... how do you really say goodbye to someone that was your other half?? I know you are looking down and taking care of me ... I feel your presence in my life everyday. You would be so proud of the house and what is going on there and as much as I know you are wrapping your arms around me from heaven I really miss your hugs in person. I'm waiting for that day where we can reunite and that sparkle in your eye will come in contact with mine and we will be together. This new chapter is an experience and I know that you would want nothing more than for me to be happy ... I pray God's direction on that everyday. Thanks for being the love of my life for 10 years!! Sure do miss you!!!

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**Julie** - May 19, 2014 at 02:47 PM

JC

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. I remember Russ from school and he was always so very nice. Keeping your family in thought and prayer during this difficult time.

Julie Israel Crowe - March 21, 2014 at 11:17 AM

SD

“ Julie, I am so sorry to for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sherie

Sherie Davis - March 17, 2014 at 06:32 AM

PF

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. May you find comfort in the Bible's hopeful message where it reveals that God's purpose is to restore the dead to life by means of a resurrection to a paradise earth, where sickness and death will be no more. "The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out." - John 5:28,29. I hope that you find comfort through the power of heartfelt prayer to God and your wonderful memories during this difficult time.

Pat F. - March 15, 2014 at 07:12 AM

Julie Griffin

“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



Julie Griffin - March 14, 2014 at 08:40 PM



Julie Griffin

*The love of my life for the last 10 years ... even though the last 6 of those years we fought two major illnesses it didn't sway either of our love for the other!! Up to the last days he would open his arms wide to let me know this is how much I love you. Going to miss the sparkle in his eyes and the smile on his face but I know without a doubt he is in a better place and I would not ask him back here for anything in this world. Love you bunches babe!!!*

Julie Griffin - March 14, 2014 at 08:46 PM

TH

“ Rusty was a kind spirit. He is with the Lord now. God bless his family.

Colonel Tim Hall, USAF (Ret)



Tim Hall - March 13, 2014 at 01:56 PM

BH

“ Heaven got another angel

Billy Hare - March 12, 2014 at 10:37 PM

DP

“ God's speed my dear friend. My heart goes out to the Lockhart Family. Rush was a great guy and will be sorely missed. I have so many great memories while we were growing up. Until we meet again my friend!

Dennis Price

Dennis Price - March 12, 2014 at 08:44 PM

SH

“ Stephanie Holley lit a candle in memory of  
Russell Clifton Lockhart



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**Stephanie Holley** - March 12, 2014 at 04:18 PM

EF

“ I enjoyed knowing Rusty and having him as a friend through school.  
He was always very kind to me. I will certainly keep his family in my  
prayers.

*Elizabeth Fisher*

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**Elizabeth Fisher** - March 12, 2014 at 08:41 AM

AE

“ Rusty was a very sweet person. He always had a pleasant smile.  
My thoughts and prayers are with the Lockhart family.

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**anne carol emery** - March 11, 2014 at 08:02 PM

AH

“ Julie, My thoughts and prayers goes out for you and the family. God  
Bless and keep you.  
*Ann Humphrey*

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**Ann Humphrey** - March 11, 2014 at 06:28 PM

DM

“ Julie, I'm so sorry to hear about your husband. We will keep you  
and the family in our prayers.  
*Deborah and Dennis Morris*

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**Deborah Morris** - March 11, 2014 at 05:14 PM

DA

“ Dean Argo lit a candle in memory of Russell Clifton Lockhart



Dean Argo - March 11, 2014 at 04:48 PM

BB

“ I took a photo that is posted on this site moments after learning of Russ's passing...let it serve as a wonderful tribute to his life. This beautiful sunrise over Wolf Bay is dedicated to the honor and memory of my Pi Zeta TKE brother Russ Lockhart after a long battle with several health issues. I will always remember that smiling face that looked like he was up to something...and he usually was! Bless you Julie for being his caregiver for so long. Rest in Peace Frater as you enter Chapter Eternal. Yours in the Bond. War Eagle!

Benny Bliss

Benny Bliss - March 11, 2014 at 09:11 AM

BB

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Benny Bliss - March 11, 2014 at 09:07 AM

RJ

“ Robin Jones lit a candle in memory of Russell Clifton Lockhart



Robin Jones - March 11, 2014 at 07:44 AM

RJ

Cathy, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Robin Jones - March 11, 2014 at 07:45 AM

MS

“ MIKE SHERIDAN lit a candle in memory of Russell Clifton Lockhart



MIKE SHERIDAN - March 11, 2014 at 07:07 AM

GC

Julie, Russ will be missed greatly by so many. I never knew him very well, but I can tell by your love for each other and by the comments from close friends what an awesome guy he was. Love and prayers for you as you beging this new "chapter" in your life.

Geni Cade - April 25, 2014 at 02:44 PM