



## Thomas E. Oates

September 17, 1950 - August 5, 2014

### THOMAS E. OATES

OATES, Thomas E., 63, of Montgomery, AL, passed from this life on August 5, 2014. Services will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2014 at Prattville Memorial Chapel with family viewing at 9 a.m., public visitation at 10:00 a.m., and chapel service at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Tommy Roy officiating. Burial will follow in Pine Level United Methodist Church Cemetery. Mr. Oates was preceded in death by his parents, John and Alpha (Chavers) Oates; and 14 siblings. Thomas was the 17th child. He is survived by his two daughters, Lee Ann (Christian) Rhodes, April (James) Warren; three grandchildren, Christina, Rachel, and Ryan Rhodes; two sisters, Jessie B. Clark and Evelyn (James) Sanders, both of Gulf Shores, AL; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He worked in Gurney and J.P. Stevens Manufacturing Co. about 20 years. Thomas retired from Baptist South – Security and from Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts – Security. He had a compassion for people and was a kind and caring person with a good sense of humor. Thomas was an Alabama fan and an avid fisherman. He leaves a void in the hearts and lives of his family and friends. Thomas, we love you.

# Cemetery Details

## Pine Level Methodist Church Cemetery

Prattville, AL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

## Service

AUG 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

LR

“ Hey dad. Today's my 54th bday - I'm getting old. You would be 75 years old today if you were still with us. I think about you all the time. I know you can't tell with me coming every so often here to write you. Just wish you could see it. I married a very sweet man, dad. This one would not have been that mistake you were talking about. I know now how a queen is treated because I feel like one every day. I'm very spoiled. He has a good family and they are very kind hearted. I was telling him today how you two would have gotten along real well. He said he could imagine. He's not a perfect man. I'm not a perfect woman. You weren't a perfect man. Nobody is, but he's what's right for me. Just hate I found him so late in life. You haven't visited me in my dreams anymore. I guess that was just to let me know you were ok. Christina has a baby girl on the way. She's due in August. I'm sure you already know her. Tell Cooper we love him. Give that sweet boy a monster hug for me. Tell him I'll be along soon and we'll all go fishing so I can out fish you both. I miss you dad. Just wanted to drop in to say hi. You were on my mind heavy today. Love you, Lee

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**LeeAnn Oates Renfro** - March 18 at 03:24 PM

LR

“ Hey dad. It's been 11 years today. 11 long years. Not a day goes by that I don't think of you. I got married again. My husbands name is Jimmy. Like us, he loves to fish. I'm always telling him my dad taught me this, my dad taught me that and because of our days and nights on the river, I give him a run for his money. He's like you - it's not a competition but Ive still caught 5 to your 2. Lol. Everything is a competition. It's all in good fun - and I usually out fish him. He gets me sometimes. He tends to catch panfish mostly while I tend to catch bass, striped bass, panfish. We are gonna switch up and do some catfishing soon. That was always your love. He reminds me of you in so many ways. Every once in a while he will whistle when he walks like you. It's like walking beside my dad again. His mom is like Grannymoma so it's like having you both back for a little more time. I've been doing as good as I can I guess. I think you'd really be surprised about things and some people if you were here though. I'm glad you were spared alot of what I've seen and lived through. I just wanted to hop on and say hey dad on this day especially. You may be gone from my sight but I'll never feel like you're gone from my side. I love you dad. Til we see each other again.....

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**LeeAnn Oates Renfro** - August 05, 2025 at 08:47 AM

 Lee  
Ann

“ It's been a while now, dad. I still don't sense you much anymore. I guess you stayed just long enough to let me know you were OK and made it to the other side. I think about you alot and the memories we made. I've met a TN guy. He's been real good to me and for me. I think you like him. He's ok with Auburn but can't stand Alabama cause they are so good and beat them about every year so yall would probably have a lot of laughs about that. Miss you alot dad. Think I might go fishing soon. Love you.

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**Lee Ann** - June 12, 2024 at 07:14 PM

LR

“ Well dad, you don't come to me anymore. I stopped hearing from you right after your sister showed her tail, but I respect your absence. I miss you everyday. I'm getting old now. I don't much care for this older me. I don't really like myself much anymore dad. Been through too much. Nor do I like other people too much anymore. The more I'm around people, the more I like my dogs. People today suck. I'm glad you didn't have to see the way people and things are today. You've missed a lot of stuff - most of it negative. Be glad. I know Cooper is there. You gotta hug him for me dad. Hug him for me until I can do it myself. I'm taking care of mom best I can. I see time wearing on her too. We are tired. Don't be a stranger. People will always show their butts but it never came between us. Love you dad.

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**Lee Ann Oates Rhodes** - June 23, 2023 at 12:23 AM

LR

“ Still think of you often dad. Miss you a lot. I talk to you sometimes. I think you hear me. Please hug Cooper for me and take care of him dad. His little life was taken too soon. Tell him that I love him very much, that I'm so sorry that happened to him and that I will be so happy to see him again - and you too. I know you're keeping your eye on him up there. I was just thinking about you and wanted to drop in to let you know. Its been almost 6 years and its hard not being able to text you or call you and pick at you. Feel free to visit me anytime. I'll know when you do and you are always welcome here. Love you dad. I'll see you again. Save us a seat.



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**Lee Ann Oates Rhodes** - March 05, 2020 at 11:58 PM

LA

“ *I love you Dad. I'll see you again one day. Just know that I will think of you every 5 minutes of every day. Thank you dad for all you did for me and with me. I will love you until the last beat of my heart.*

*Lee Ann Oates Rhodes*

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**Lee Ann** - August 05, 2014 at 07:47 PM