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Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

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75¢



Morgan County Today

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WEEKLY WEATHER



TUE
8/18



88° 68°

WED
8/19



90° 70°

THU
8/20



85° 62°

FRI
8/21



83° 61°

SAT
8/22



82° 59°

SUN
8/23



84° 60°

MON
8/24



85° 63°



Ms. Avery Pearl
Pet Columnist

Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

Veggies Galore!

Ms Ivory and me eat a baby carrot every morning after we potty.

Mimi says they are good for our teeth and digestion. Well, Mimi gets those carrots in a bag from a place called, the store.

Any-woof, we have a garden where we have veggies galore, ecery single day! Okra, cucumbers, asparagus beans, jalapeño, bell peppers, green beans, onions, and tomatoes.

In all those veggies, there is not a carrot to be found. My question is, why no carrots? Do they not grow in gardens like other veggies? Does the rabbits eat them, be-fore they can be harvested or what?

I know one thing, for sure! Ms Ivory and me wuff those things, even if they don't come from our garden.

For more of my Pet Perspec-tive like and follow me on Facebook at Ms Avery Pearl.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

10 th Annual Dylan Kennedy Memorial @ Wartburg Speedway

Sept. 6, 2026 (Sunday before Labor Day)

75 laps

\$13,037 to win \$500 to start

Limited Late Model

Group A and B qualifying

Fastest overall qualifier: \$137 sponsored by 423 Cerakote and Guns

Heat 1: \$137 sponsored by Chris Summers (10 laps)

Heat 2: \$137 sponsored by MBM Heating and Air (10 laps)

Heat 3: \$137 sponsored by 22 Speed Shop

Heat 4: \$137 sponsored by Morgan Pro Hardware

Fast car dash: \$137 (top 3 in group A and B)
sponsored by Billy Ward – 5th District school board member (10 laps)

Football toss: sponsored by St. Paul Lutheran Church (at intermission)

— In Loving Memory —

Patsy Ruth Davis, 89



Patsy Ruth Davis, passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 25th, 2026 surrounded by family.

Patsy was born on March 5th, 1937 in Oklahoma to Melvin and Ruth Hulsey. They later moved to California where eventually Patsy would meet the love of her life, Harry Davis. Together they had 4 children. Diana, Marjorie, Harry Jr., and Dennis.

Harry and Patsy relocated to Tennessee where they continued to raise their family. She was a devoted mother to her kids.

Once her kids were grown, Patsy enjoyed spoiling her grand kids with time. She could be found playing games with her grand kids. Teaching them to play multiple card games and pretty pretty princess with the girls.

She became a member of Mossy Grove Baptist Church in 1994. She was devoted to being a deacon's wife and studying her Bible. She served as a door greeter and rode with her husband to pick up some of the ladies of the church that could no longer drive. She also was part of the Stitching Sisters.

Once her great-grand kids came along, Patsy lit up with a new joy. She loved her greats fiercely.

Patsy was known for her wonderful smile and bright disposition. She would help anyway she could.

Once her beloved husband of 63 years went on to heaven,

Patsy lost a piece of herself. She longed to be with her husband and Heavenly Father.

Patsy is finally resting in the arms of her Savior.

She is proceeded in death by her husband, Harry Davis, daughter Marjorie Davis, daughter in law Vickie Davis, great granddaughter Ella Davis, her mother and father, Melvin and Ruth Hulsey, Sister Peggy Marsh, and Brothers Chuck Hulsey and David Hulsey.

She is survived by daughter Diana (Edgar) Brown, sons Harry "Buddy" Davis Jr, and Dennis (Ellen) Davis.

Grandchildren Ray Brown, David (Nikki) Brown, Holly (Matt) Davis, Shawn (Nikki) Davis, Sierra (Ryan) Hamby, Cassie (Tyger) Herbst, Courtney (Drew) Drummond, Samantha Davis and a host of great grandkids. Brother, Larry (Esther) Hulsey of California.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, July 29, 2026 at Mossy Grove Baptist Church in Harriman from 2:00-3:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 3:00 p.m. with Pastor Jim Disney officiating. Interment will follow in the Mossy Grove Church Cemetery.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to Quality Hospice for taking such great care of Patsy.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Patsy Ruth Davis.

Jerry Loyd Sr, 84



Jerry Loyd, Sr., passed away July 26, 2026 at his home. He was born June 19, 1942 in Cincinnati, Ohio to Ruth and Odell Loyd.

Jerry spent his younger years in Oneida, Tn., with his cherished grandparents Barry and Eldora Loyd, and beloved aunt Rema and uncles Donald and Audney Loyd.

He is preceded in death by parents Barry and Eldora Loyd, Ruth and Odell Loyd; aunts Edna Cassidy Rema Terry Eugene Loyd, Audney Loyd, Donald Loyd.

He is survived by his loving wife Jane Katherine Lloyd of 62 years; two sons Jerry (Anita) Loyd, Jr., of Lansing, TN., Steven (Janice) Loyd of Decula, GA.; daughter Melissa Tate of Oklahoma City, OK.; grandchildren Jeremy Loyd, Jordan (Kaitlyn) Loyd, McKenzie

(Chyanne) , Chase and Hannah Loyd, Morgan and Emily Loyd, Gabriel Loyd and Sophia Loyd; brothers Gary and Linda Loyd of Augusta, GA., Terry Loyd of Friendsville, TN.; great grandchildren McKenlee, Kyson, Bentley, Augustus, Qwenn, Monroe, Talullah, Aurelia, Garrett, Elliot and a host of nieces, nephews, friends and family.

Jerry was a kind and gentle soul. Very soft spoken man that never raised his voice. He was a great listener that could talk about a lot of things. He enjoyed driving down in the woods (at 2 mph) watching and listening for wild life... while enjoying his cigar. He was a man of few words but spoke a lot of wisdom in the those few words. He will be great missed and cherished forever.

The family will receive friends Friday, July 31, 2026 at Schubert Funeral Home from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. Grave-side services will be Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in the H C Smith Cemetery in Wartburg.

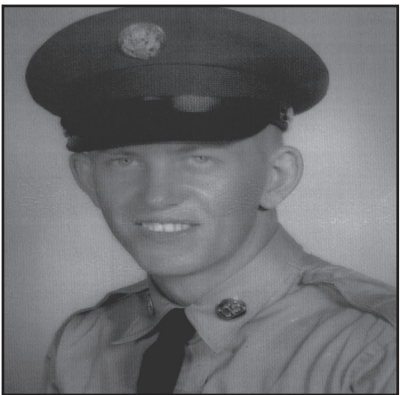
Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Jerry Loyd.

Psalm 86:4-5

4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

Bobby Dee Nunley, 85
United States Army Veteran



Bobby Dee Nunley, age 85 of Petros passed away July 31, 2026 at his home. He was born February 5, 1941 to Robert R. & Eva Lee Trail Nunley.

Bobby was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He belong to the Mason Lodge of Petros and Shriners. He loved history, hunting, outdoors and loved being around his kids. He was of the Baptist faith.

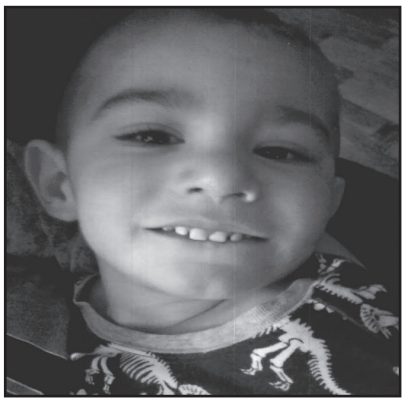
He is preceded in death by his parents; sister Della Long; brother Baxter Trail; brothers-in-law Floyd Long, Boyd Franklin and Emmett Massengale, Jr.; nephew Wade Trail

He is survived by his sister Barbara Massengale and Judy Franklin; brother George Nunley and Von; sister-in-law Shelby Trail and a host of extended family and friends. The family will have a grave-side service Monday, August 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Petros Cemetery (COG) with Dr. Jim West officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Bobby Dee Nunley.

— In Loving Memory —

Zamuel Brin Copeland, 12



Zamuel Brin Copeland, age 12, went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Monday, July 27, 2026.

Though his time on earth was far too short, Samuel filled every day with joy, laughter, and love. He was a sweet, fun-loving, and happy child who never met a stranger. His kind heart, gentle spirit, and infectious personality touched the lives of everyone blessed enough to know him. Samuel's smile could light up any room, and his laughter was truly unforgettable. He was proudly recognized with the "Best Laugh" award, a fitting honor for a boy whose contagious laugh brought happiness to so many.

More than anything, Samuel was deeply loved. His kind heart, playful personality, and gentle soul left an everlasting impression on his family, friends, teachers, classmates, and all who were blessed to know him. The love he shared will remain in our hearts forever.

Zamuel loved life and found joy in simple things. Whether spending time with his family, making new friends at school, or sharing his bright smile with those around him, he had a special gift for making others feel loved and happy. His life was a beautiful reminder of unconditional love, innocence, and kindness.

Left to cherish his precious memory are his loving parents, Bryon and Crystal Copeland; his siblings, Amber and Chas Shannon, Kristen and Jeff West, Breanna and Cody Campbell, Brent Copeland, Brylie Copeland, Colton Copeland, Trey Copeland, and Jada Copeland; along with a host of loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and countless people whose lives

were forever changed by knowing Samuel.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, William and Nella'Mae Hutcherson and James and Brenda Copeland; his beloved sister, Latisha Hawn; and his nephew, Bryson Hawn.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt appreciation to the special people who played such an important role in Samuel's life. A sincere thank you to his devoted teachers, Ms. Paula Winn and Ms. Lori Love, for the love, patience, and encouragement they showed him each day. The family is also deeply grateful to his school bus driver, Ms. Amanda Woodall, and bus aide, Ms. Renee Jones, whose kindness and care meant so much to Samuel's family knowing he was safe on those school days.

Although our hearts are shattered by this unimaginable loss, we find comfort in knowing that Samuel is now resting peacefully in the arms of Jesus.

His beautiful smile, infectious laughter will live on forever in the hearts of those who loved him. He leaves behind an imprint of joy, kindness, and unconditional love that will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew him. While we grieve the loss of his earthly presence, we rejoice in the promise that we will see him again.

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." — Matthew 19:14

Forever loved. Forever missed. Forever our sweet Samuel.

The family will be having a private service.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Samuel Brin Copeland.

Maelee Rain Lowe



In Loving Memory of Maelee Rain Lowe

With hearts shattered by unimaginable loss, yet forever grateful for the precious gift of her life, we announce the birth and passing of our beautiful daughter, Maelee Rain Lowe, who was born peacefully asleep on July 26, 2026.

For 25 weeks, Maelee was carried safely beneath her mother's heart. From the instant we learned of this little life, our hearts were forever changed. Every heartbeat, every tiny movement, every dream we held for the future became a beautiful part of our story. Though our time together

was far too short, she brought so much joy, hope, and unconditional love to everyone who knew of her and eagerly awaited her arrival, the love we have for our babygirl will last a lifetime. She knew nothing but the warmth of her momma's embrace, her daddy's tickles, her big brother's giggles, and the endless love of all her family.

Maelee was the cherished daughter of Chelsey Smith and Bradley Lowe, and the adored little sister of Carson "Bub", who will forever hold the title of proud big brother.

Born weighing 7 ounces and measuring 8 inches long, Maelee was tiny beyond words, yet her life made an immeasurable impact. She will always be remembered for the love she inspired and the lasting imprint she leaves on the hearts of all who loved her.

She is lovingly remembered by her grandparents, Charlis Davis; Jennifer Lowe and Luc; and Chad Strunk and Dianna; her great-papaw, Ricky Lowe, her

great great grandmother Moana Human; her aunts and uncles, Samantha and Charles, Madeline and Asher, Jakob, Jolie, and Hudson; her godparents, Jessica and Dillon; and a host of other aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family members, and dear friends who loved her long before they had the chance to meet her.

As heartbreaking as it is to say goodbye, we find comfort in knowing that Maelee was welcomed into Heaven by so many loving arms. She is now being held by her beloved Nanna Cyn-di Wicks, Uncle Amos Wicks, Papaw Tommy Petrey, Great Papaw Charles Davis, and Great Mamaw Deloris Galloway, Great Great Papaw David Wicks, where she is surrounded by perfect peace, everlasting joy, and unconditional love.

While we grieve the future we longed to share with her, we find comfort in believing she now rests peacefully in the loving arms of Jesus. Maelee's life has forever changed ours. She taught us that love is not mea-

sured by the length of time we have with someone, but by the depth with which they are loved. She will forever be our daughter, our sister, our granddaughter, and our greatest blessing.

Our hearts will ache until we meet again, but we rejoice in the promise that this goodbye is not forever. Until that beautiful day, we will carry Maelee in our hearts with every sunrise, every rainfall, and every breath.

Forever loved. Forever missed. Forever our little girl.

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." — Psalm 34:18

"There is no footprint too small that it cannot leave an imprint on this world."



— In Loving Memory —

Justin Eugene Clark, 38
United States Air Force Veteran



Justin Eugene Clark, affectionately known as “Clark” to many and “Justy” to his cousins, nieces, and nephews, passed away on July 31, 2026, at the age of 38.

Justin was born on October 18, 1987, in Harriman, TN, and was raised in Oakdale, TN, by his loving family. He was the son of Nancy Kay Stewart and Bradley Lynn Clark and was also blessed with the unwavering love and support of his stepfather, Ricky Stewart.

A proud graduate of Oakdale School, Justin was involved in high school drama, baseball, and football. His personality, school spirit and the kindness he showed to others earned him the title of Mr. OHS. Following high school, he attended Roane State Community College before answering the call to serve his country in the United States Air Force.

Justin earned a degree in Civil Engineering and worked as a laborer in the Union. His journey was filled with both victories and struggles, but through every chapter of his life, Justin continued to fight, to love deeply, and to bring laughter to those around him. That resilience became one of the many things people admired most about him.

Few things brought Justin more joy than baseball, especially cheering on his beloved Atlanta Braves. He was a devoted fan whose love for the game never faded. One of the proudest moments of his life came in 2024 when he had the unforgettable honor of throwing the ceremonial first pitch at an Atlanta Braves game -a dream come true for someone whose heart had always belonged to baseball.

Justin also shared a special bond with Georgie, a dog who brought him endless joy and companionship. Anyone who knew Justin knew how deeply he loved her, and the two were rarely far apart whenever they had the chance.

He was preceded in death by his beloved mother, Nancy Kay Stewart, His father, Bradley Lynn Clark, his uncle, Joseph Gilbert; and his cherished grandparents, Betty Sampson, Georgia Sue

Gilbert (“Nanny”), and Wendell Eugene Gann (“Papaw”).

Justin is survived by his grandfather, Bob Clark, his loving sisters, Kayla (Jacob) Taylor, Aaleya (Kendall) Rogers, and Linsey Gilbert, aunts and uncles, Bobby (Tasha) Clark, Michael (Nancy) Gilbert, Lil Stewart, Larry Clark, Step-father Ricky Stewart, nieces and nephews, Harper and Landon Taylor, Miley Jo, Rhett and Carter Rogers, Akira Gilbert, Alyiah Bright, and special friend Amran Adkisson.

To know Justin was to laugh. He had a way of turning ordinary moments into unforgettable memories, making people feel welcome, and finding humor even on the hardest days. His smile was contagious, his love was loud, and his loyalty never wavered.

More than the milestones of his life, Justin will be remembered for the way he made people feel. He had a larger-than-life personality that drew people to him wherever he went. He never met a stranger, and within minutes of meeting him, you felt like you had known him for years.

Justin found humor in absolutely everything. His quick wit, playful teasing, and unapologetic sense

of humor could make anyone laugh, no matter the situation. He was the loudest person in the room, and somehow his laughter was even louder. It was contagious, impossible not to join in, and is a sound that will be deeply missed by everyone who knew and loved him.

Although our hearts are broken in a way that can never truly be repaired, we find comfort in knowing that the love, laughter, and unforgettable memories Justin gave us will remain with us forever. He will always be loved, always missed, and never forgotten.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, August 8, 2026, from 5-7 pm Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral Services will follow at 7 pm.

*Schubert Funeral Home
is honored to serve the family
of Justin Eugene Clark.*

David Woodrow “Woody” Garrett, 60



David Woodrow “Woody” Garrett of Lancing, TN passed away August 1, 2026, at the age of 60. Woody was born on December 8, 1965, in Mooresville, NC and raised in Lancing, TN.

Woody is survived by his wife, Louann Brown Garrett; Children: Joshua and wife Crystal, Whitney and husband Chris. Stepchildren: Samantha and husband Nathan, Nick and wife Jessica, and their mother, Cynthia Garrett. Grandchildren: Colton Isham, Emery Redmon, Kara Redmon, Henry Garrett and Lily Garrett. 4 Step-Grand-

children. Parents: David and Bobby Garrett. Sisters Elizabeth and husband Keith Hawn; Pamela Garrett and a host of nieces, nephews, friends and family.

Woody retired from TDOC after many years of dedicated service. Woody lived a life filled with kindness, laughter, and service to others. Woody was an avid outdoorsman, loved fishing, four-wheeling and piddling around in the garage and barn. Woody is very loved and will be missed dearly by all.

A Graveside Service will be held for family and friends on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Annadale Baptist Church Cemetery.

*Schubert Funeral Home is
honored to serve the family
of
David Woodrow “Woody” Garrett.*

Glena Mae Hamby Taylor Nelson, 90



Glena Mae Hamby Taylor Nelson, age 90, of Wartburg passed away Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at Life Care Center of Morgan County.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Nelson; parents Albert and Etta Hamby; sisters Martha Ellen Hamby and Mary Kay Nelson; brothers Ronnie Hamby and Roy Hamby.

She is survived by daughters Darlene Jones and Regina Davis; sisters Louise Wilkes, Rita Leaf, Joyce Roach, and brother Don Hamby. Grandchildren:

Jennifer (Jeremy) Ridge, Kristen (Matt) Justice, Jessica (Andy) Moehl, and Andrew Davis. Great-grandchildren: Addison and Maverick Davis, Rosalyn and Vivian Justice, Walker and Elliot Ridge and Heidi and Jill Moehl.

The family would like to thank the staff at Life Care Center of Morgan County for their loving care.

The family will have a graveside service Friday, August 7, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. in Elizabeth Cemetery with Frank Kirby officiating.

*Schubert Funeral Home
is honored to serve the family
of
Glena Mae Hamby Taylor Nelson.*

— In Loving Memory —

Margie Ivylyn Butler, 76



Margie Ivylyn Butler, age 76, went home to be with the Lord on August 6, 2026, surrounded by the family she loved so dearly.

Margie was born at home in Clayton, Georgia, to Benjamin and Connie Chappell. She was the ninth of eleven children and grew up surrounded by a large family that helped shape the deep love she carried for her own family throughout her life.

Margie loved God with all her heart, and her faith was a treasured part of who she was. She

devoted much of her life to loving and caring for her children, Tammy, Jesse, Barbara, and Micheal. Being a mother brought her great joy, but few things could compare to the happiness she found in her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They truly were the light of her life.

To her family, she was lovingly known as Nanny. Her love was unconditional, her presence was a comfort, and the memories she created will be carried in their hearts forever. Nanny was also one of the best cooks her family ever knew. Her meals brought everyone together, and her pumpkin pies were especially loved. Thanksgiving — and pumpkin pie — simply will never be the same without her.

Margie is survived by her loving sons, Jesse Butler and Micheal Chappell; her daughter, Barbara (Darrick) York; her grandchildren, Deborah (Jared) Northrup,

Amber Redmon, and Ashley (Matthew) Wilson; her sisters, Gloria and Shelia; and her cherished great-grandchildren, Braylon, Bethany, Oakley, Kendall, Abigail, Colton, Lillie, Jack, and Oliver.

Margie leaves behind much more than names on a family tree. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, unconditional love, family gatherings, home-cooked meals, laughter, and countless memories that will continue to be shared for generations to come. Those who were blessed to call her Mom, Nanny, sister, and family will forever carry a piece of her with them.

Though our hearts are broken, we find comfort in knowing that Margie is no longer suffering and is now in the presence of her Savior, whom she faithfully loved and served. While we grieve her absence here on earth, we rejoice in the prom-

ise that, because of her faith in Christ, this is not goodbye — it is simply until we meet again.

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant... enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”
— Matthew 25:23 KJV

The family will receive friends Saturday, August 10, 2026 at Schubert Funeral Home from 11:00-12:00 p.m. with a graveside service to follow in the Butler Family Cemetery in Rockwood with Darrick York speaking.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Margie Butler.

Thelma Sue Stringfield, 85



Mrs. Thelma Sue Stringfield, age 85, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday August 7, 2026 surrounded by her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Sam and Elsie Cross and John and Isabelle Smithers; and husband, Millard Stringfield.

She is survived by her daughter, Debbie (Mike) Craft of Leesburg, GA; son, Timmy Stringfield of Lancing; brother, Fred (Betty) Cross of Deer Lodge; grandchildren: Joshua (Andrea) Gardner, Shandy

Harris, Rimanda (Jeremy) Carsner; great-grandchildren: Teniah, Iman, Zoey, Mayliah, Aerith, Colt, Samara, Presley Jo, and Lakley; along with several nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

The family will receive friends Monday August 10 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg. Funeral services will be held at 2 PM with Bro. Bobby Stewart officiating. Interment will immediately follow in the Lane Cemetery in Lancing, TN.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Thelma Sue Stringfield.

James Alfred Beasley Jr., 79



Mr. James Alfred Beasley, Jr., age 79 of Potters Chapel Community, went home to be with the Lord on August 9, 2026. He enjoyed fixing cars and gardening and gifting his fruits and vegetables to people. He was deeply loved and he helped anyone and everyone he met. He loved feeding deer and he loved his chickens but also loved all animals.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father Thelma Rose Potter Beasley and James Beasley, Sr.; brothers and sister Owen Gene, Charles Polk, Johnny Evan, Roger Dale and Pluma Rose Beasley; nieces and nephews Monica Beasley

and Roger Jr. “Buddy” Beasley, Junbug Gilreath and Jamie Gilreath.

He is survived by his wife Glenda Beasley; daughters Cynthia Susan Beasley, Melinda Gail Beasley, and Crystal Rose Beasley; grandsons and granddaughter Evan Nathaniel Joines, Issac James Beasley, Lakeanne Hayley Rose Beasley; sisters and brothers Bessie Ooten, Kay Dixon, Lou Beasley, and Lester Beasley. And a host of extended family and friends.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at Schubert Funeral Home from 11:00-12:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 12:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Old Potters Chapel Cemetery in Lancing.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mr. James Alfred Beasley, Jr.

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.



— In Loving Memory —

Christopher Allen Bingham, 62



Christopher Allen Bingham, age 62, passed away on August 9, 2026. Born on January 7, 1964, Christopher lived a life defined by his hard work, generous spirit, and deep love for his family and friends.

For over 20 years, Christopher served as a dedicated meat manager for Winn-Dixie and Food City, where his strong work ethic and friendly demeanor made him a familiar and trusted face in the community.

Outside of work, Christopher had a vibrant personality and a host of favorite pastimes. He loved spending time tending to his garden, hosting yard sales—though family and friends fondly remember that he usually ended up giving away more than he sold—and browsing weekend flea markets. He also loved firing up the grill for cookouts and hosting delicious seafood boils. A passionate sports fan, Christopher could almost always be found with the television tuned to SportsCenter, cheering on his favorite basketball and football teams.

Above all, Christopher’s absolute favorite thing in the world was being “Poppy”—not only to his own precious grandkids, but to the numerous children that the family babysat over the years, all of whom held a very special place in his heart. He

was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, and his warmth, humor, and generosity will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Christopher is preceded in death by his parents, Lester James Bingham and Lois Jean Bingham; grandparents, Grant and Lillie Bingham and Harry and Stella Newberry; and siblings, Dennis Wayne Vaughn, Michele Vicky Bingham Ricca, and Gregory Bingham.

He is survived by his loving wife of 37 years, Kandy Bingham; his children, Riley (James) Kelley and Chase (Janai Santa) Bingham; his cherished grandchildren, Kylee Kelley and Isabella Santa; his siblings, Sandra Weaver of Florida, Michael (Linda Gail) Bingham of Lansing, Donna (Wiley Dub) England of Sunbright, William “Randy”

Bingham of Oak Ridge, Brian (Melissa “Missy”) Bingham of Rockwood, and Dale Vaughn; his loyal fur baby, Bella; as well as several nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

The family will be holding a celebration of life at a later date to honor Christopher’s memory.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that small fruit trees be planted in his memory and lovingly requests that you take a moment to hug your loved ones.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Christopher Allen Bingham.



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Historically Speaking

Elographics and Sam Hurst

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Before we explore Elographics history we should get to know Dr. Sam Hurst who was instrumental in its creation. Sam was born October 13, 1927, in Bell County, KY. At age 15 he entered Berea College where he began his study of physics. Ultimately, he earned a Ph.D. in physics at the University of Tennessee in 1959.

He was recruited to Oak Ridge National Laboratory by Karl Morgan in 1948 where he worked until 1966, at which time he accepted a position at the University of Kentucky teaching physics.

While at ORNL he did research on the development of radiation detectors and instrumentation, neutron dosimetry and spectroscopy, and field sample analysis. He was included in two nuclear weapons tests at the Nevada Test Site to monitor and document radiation exposures.

It was while he was at the University of Kentucky that the beginnings of the technology that would cause him to create Elographics was first conceived. The company would grow to the point that in 2025 it was acquired for \$1.3B.

Dr. Hurst was awarded three IR-100 Awards and seven other honors, held 15 patents, and founded or co-founded five companies. But his most highly recognized accomplishment is the creation of the touchscreen technology that is so prominent in all we do as we interact with electronic media today.

Much of the information in this Historically Speaking column comes from the following source:

<https://elosupport.elotouch.com/hc/en-us/articles/31649426357911-Where-can-I-find-information-about-the-history-of-Elo-Touch-Solutions>

It is an online archive history adapted from Elo’s Touching Moments. It was edited by Debi Brown, Cheryl Steinbacher, Tonya Turpin, Rhonda Butler, and Chuck Bales. There are special contributions by Connie Smith and Betty Colwell. The photography in the archived history is by Chuck Bales and Richard Gardner.

With that reference to let you know where you can learn even more about Sam Hurst and the touchscreen technology we all use thoughtlessly today, let’s look at how that was invented in Oak Ridge.

Sam Hurst was employed by Oak Ridge National Laboratory prior to 1970. The Elo website has an AI assistant named, “ēlo.AI” (I have come to appreciate AI increasingly). I asked, “When did Sam Hurst work for ORNL?” Here is ēlo.AI’s response “Dr. Sam Hurst worked for Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) before taking a two-year leave to teach at the University of Kentucky, and he returned to Oak Ridge in 1971 to start Elographics. The specific years at ORNL aren’t detailed, but his association with ORNL was before and around 1971.”

What I also learned from the online archive is that Sam “needed to read a huge stack of strip chart data. It would have taken two graduate students approximately two months to do the task. He started thinking of a way to read the charts, and during the process, the “Elograph” (electronic graphics) coordinate measuring system and Elographics the company were born. The University of Kentucky Research Foundation applied for and was granted a patent on the Elograph. The Foundation granted an exclusive license to Elographics.”

In March 1971 Elographics was formed as a company. Here is ēlo.AI’s response to

“When was Elographics formed as a company?” “In March 1971. How cool is that? It all started with just ten stockholders and a big idea that would eventually lead to the invention of the touchscreen!” What fun, huh. Well, let’s get down to the details now...

Sam asked nine others to join him as stakeholders to form the company to manufacture and market the product produced because of the realization that a method which allowed quick access to points on a screen would speed up access to data and improve utilization of information. The company first existed in three basements. Soon a location in Four Oaks shopping center was added. The final assembly and shipment of the product was done there. The basements were still used for the actual manufacturing operations.

25 E-100 model units were sold in the remainder of 1971. Massachusetts Institute of Technology bought the first E-100 model. By 1973, through announcements in a few trade journals, such as Electronic Design on November 28, 1971, Industrial Research in December 1971, and Instrument and Apparatus News in December 1971, sales grew quickly. From the Elo Touch archived history, “In 1973 Elo won the I-100 award for having one of the one hundred most significant new technical products of the year.”

A brief account of what happened in the two-year interval after Elographics won its IR 100 award will be published in an upcoming Historically Speaking column featuring Jim Palmer’s recollections of his time with Elographics.

After that, things grew quickly. Research and development continued as more applications of the technology became apparent. But things were about to take an amazing jump.

Bill Gibson came on board as president in 1977. Soon after “Siemens Corporation came to us and offered to back Elo in the development of a curved glass sensor, which later was called a touchscreen, as it was activated by touch.” According to the archive. So what does ēlo.Aio have to say about this?

“The touchscreen was first born through the hard work of Bill Colwell and Dr. Hurst, who developed the original AccuTouch products and secured a key patent for separator dot technology. The world got its first real taste of touchscreens in 1982, when Elographics (now Elo) displayed 33 televisions fitted with transparent touch-sensitive panels at the World’s Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee. This was a groundbreaking moment—many people experienced a touchscreen for the very first time! The technology has only grown from there, becoming a huge part of our daily lives.”

The following quotes in the next nine paragraphs come directly from the archive history.



Dr. G. S. “Sam” Hurst (left), founder of Elographics, Inc.
The Elograph was selected by Industrial Research as one of the 100 Most Significant New Technical Products of the Year 1973
(Courtesy of the Elographic website)

“In late Fall of 1982, the first computer system was installed in the company. In May of 1983, the company moved to its Grove Center location and began expanding. In December of 1984 Elographics was honored as the 149th of Inc. Magazine’s 500’s fastest growing privately held companies.

“During 1985/1986 what was thought to be a small service (monitor integration) was also offered to customers. This business has since developed into an important part of our company.

“In early 1987, two new technologies were purchased. The surface acoustic wave product, named IntelliTouch, was purchased from Zenith. Early in 1988, a production facility was established in California to manufacture and sell this product. The other technology was purchased from Kennedy Technology. This product was a four-wire resistive technology and was subsequently named DuraTouch. This product line has since been phased out.

“1991 became a year of excitement and change. Elographics started on the path to a Total Quality Management philosophy. Process improvements and team activities took over the company. Through empowerment, education and the continuous improvement philosophy, the company started its journey to becoming World Class.

“Both AccuTouch and IntelliTouch products experienced numerous process improvements, better yields and lower costs. 1992 brought opportunities for sharing the company’s successes. Elographics participated as guest speakers in a Quality Leadership Symposium, to share success stories using advanced statistical methods (design of experiments). But continuous improvement never stopped and by Fall of 1992, Elographics announced its initial action plan to become ISO (international Standards Organization) 9001 certified.

“On February 24, 1994, the company officially changed its name from Elographics to Elo TouchSystems. This allowed Elo to keep the well-deserved reputation it had built by keeping Elo as part of the name and the addition of Touch brought name association with touch products.

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“In August 1994 Elo TouchSystems achieved ISO 9001 Certification, which provided a level of controlled documentation that helped measure control of our processes. Continuous improvement and team activities were on going. The company has continued the path to World Class by providing more & more jobs and delighting our customers. The company currently has numerous proprietary designs.

“In March 1995 Elo TouchSystems acquired IQ2000 Automation GmbH, a value-added touchscreen integrator and distributor located near Munich, Germany. In July the company was renamed Elo TouchSystems GmbH. Elo TouchSystems also introduced the longest touchscreen warranties in the industry.

“In 1996, Elo announced plans to consolidate its Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Fremont, California facilities in the Bay Area to facilitate company growth and a closer relationship with Raychem Corporation, Elo’s parent company. During this time of transition, Elo’s Oak Ridge employees spent hundreds of hours training their successors while continuing improvement techniques, team activity and a level of camaraderie unmatched by any other company.”

The next 30 years saw continued growth and expansion of the company. The reach became world-wide. The company focused on commercial touchscreen technology and sales. Some financial transactions resulted in the company being purchased several times.

The Gore Group acquired Elo from TE Connectivity (NYSE: TEL) in June 2012.

Crestview Partners acquired Elo from The Gore Group in August 2018.

In August 2025, Zebra Technologies acquired Elo Touch Solutions, Inc. for \$1.3B!

In February 2026, WBIR published the following:

<https://www.wbir.com/article/news/history/the-touchscreen-revolution/51-356d499a-6868-4083-b9d3-075a0c5b72e2>



A technology that we use all the time without giving it a thought as it has become so common
(Courtesy of Ray Smith)

The next seven paragraphs are quotes from that source: “In August 2021, the company opened a 90,000-square-foot facility in Knoxville.

“Nathan Swisshelm, Elo’s global supply chain vice president, said the location allows the company to efficiently serve customers across the eastern United States.

“Seventy percent of our customers are on the east side of the Mississippi,” Swisshelm said. “We can have products arrive at the port and within a day have those products here at our warehouse, and we’re about a day away from all of our major customers as well.”

“The Knoxville facility receives touchscreen monitors, computers and accessories from manufacturing sites, distributes them to customers and performs repairs and modifications.

“Behind the simplicity of a touchscreen lies complex engineering, Witsoe said, including processing power, circuitry, chemical coatings and software.

“The great part is all of that technology comes together, but when the customer uses it, it

just seems easy,” he said.

“More than five decades after its founding, the company continues to expand.

“Innovation creates jobs, creates opportunities,” Witsoe said. “We used to talk about over 50 million that have been installed in the world. Honestly, I think we’ve probably lost count, but they truly are everywhere.”

So, Sam Hurst created what became the touchscreen technology in Oak Ridge and the company has just kept on growing and expanding its reach. Now touchscreen technology is just taken for granted. Yet another of the amazing scientific advances that impact the world to come from Oak Ridge.



2 Corinthians Chapter 3



Melvin Howard

(2 Cor. 3:1-6) “Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.”

The character of Paul’s ministry: Some expositors believe that verse one contains a hint concerning some of the false teachers who were troubling the Corinthian church---perhaps Jews from Jerusalem who had brought “letters of commendation” from the holy city. Paul asks (with a question that expects a negative answer): “Do we need to introduce ourselves again to you for your approval? Do we require (as some apparently do) letters of commendation (Acts 18:27; Rom. 16:1) to or from you? Surely not!” The Corinthian Christians themselves were like an epistle, dear to Paul’s heart; their transformed lives testified to the power of Christ and the credibility of Paul’s ministry (v.2-3).

Paul describes the true letters of commendation as not written with ink, but that of the influence of the Spirit of God in the heart, through the teaching “ministered” by inspired teachers. The reference to “tables of stone” clearly is a declaration that the law of Moses is not a binding obligation for the Christian: this is a precursor to the contrast he is about to draw. Our confidence before God is through Christ, not in ourselves---such as that which characterized his critics (v. 5). Paul and his companions were “ministers” of a “new covenant.”

This expression occurs eight times in the Bible. In Jeremiah’s prophecy it stands in contrast to the law of Moses (31:31), given when Israel departed Egypt. Similarly, “new covenant” in the New Testament represents the new regime of Christ in distinction to the old system (Heb. 8:8; 13; 9:15; 12:24). The apostle is responding to Judaizers who are sowing their seeds of discord at Corinth. Two of the differences between the Old system and the New were: (a) The old covenant was on stones, the “letter” of which the Jews sought to keep for justification. The new provided direction through principles that went to and affected the heart. (b) The former brought death (because it could not be obeyed perfectly (Gal. 3:10); new covenant instruction, empowered by the Spirit, brought life by means of a relationship with Christ (v. 6).

(2 Cor. 3:7-11) “But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious.” The glory of Paul’s ministry: The antithesis between the two systems continues. The Ten Commandments, written on stones, were a ministration of death (capital punishment was connected with each (also Gal. 3:10); they were given in an environment of glory (that of Moses’ glowing face). But that glory gradually faded, a token of the fact that the law itself was not to be permanent. The religious aspects of the law were abolished at the cross (Eph. 2:15; Col. 2:14); the civil elements saw their final hour in the destruction of the Jewish nation by the Romans (A.D. 70).

The ministration of the Spirit (the new covenant) has abiding glory (v. 8). The former regime was a “ministration of condemnation,” the latter a “ministration of righteousness” that eclipsed the glory of the former (v.9-11).

(2 Cor. 3:12-18) “And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

The benefits of Paul’s ministry: Recognizing the superiority of the new covenant over the old, and his role in the ministration of the new, the apostle did not shrink from addressing his Jewish critics in the boldest manner possible. Paul speaks of the fading glory of Moses’ veiled face, which ultimately reached “the end” (v.13). There are two views as to the meaning of this expression. “End” can signify “termination,” thus indicating the end of the Mosaic system by the death of Christ. Or the term can suggest reaching a “goal.” Thus, the ultimate goal of the law was the implementation of the Christian system, previously veiled by the more obscure shadows or types of the former regime. The two thoughts are not mutually exclusive.

Pursuing the veil motif, Paul describes the Jews who rejected Jesus as their Messiah as being “hardened” (Jn. 12:37-43), manifested by the fact that a veil of stubbornness blocked their minds (understanding) at “this very day.” whenever the law of Moses was read (v. 15). What was in view in Paul’s affirmation, “it is done away in Christ” (v. 14)? Some suggest that the Jews, due to their hardness, refused to see the truth that the law was done away “in Christ,” by his death. Others feel the object is the hardness, which would be removed if (or when) they understood the messianic thrust of the law. Ultimately both propositions reflect biblical truth.

“The Lord is the Spirit” (v.17). This does not confuse the Lord Jesus with the Spirit, as though they are the same Person---as “Oneness Pentecostals” assert. Just as Moses (v. 15) represented the law which he gave, even so Lord (as head of the new regime) represents the new covenant which replaced the law and has been given by the Holy Spirit. In New Testament parlance, preaching Christ was the equivalent of preaching new covenant gospel (Acts 8:35; 17:18; 1 Cor. 1:23; Phil. 1:15). “Spirit of the Lord” (v. 17) is the same as the new covenant; it brings “liberty” in contrast to the “bondage” of Old Testament law (Gal. 4:24).

Christians, with their understanding of the relationship between the two covenants, have unveiled faces. They acknowledge their freedom from the former system; they now understand the prophecies, types, etc. of the Old Testament economy. Christians should appreciate the advantages of the new covenant, for under it: (a) there is liberty, (b) we reflect the glory of Christ, and (c) we are “being transformed” (an ongoing process) into the Lord’s glory, which will culminate in the full radiance of a face-to-face encounter (1 Jn. 3:2).

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