Sossoman
Funeral Home & Crematory Center
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Ayden Butler

Aug. 3, 1972 - March 11, 2024

Ayden Butler, 51, of Hickory, NC passed away unexpectedly on Monday, March 11, 2024. He was born on August 3, 1972 in Petersburg, VA to Gayle Butler and the late Charles Ayden Butler, Jr. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Morganton. Ayden was granted a full baseball scholarship to East Carolina University and held the single game record for strike outs at ECU for twenty -two years. At Freedom High School, he recorded 300 strike outs: he was a natural south paw pitcher. He was a manager of clients with intellectual disabilities. He worked at Salem Industries in Gastonia. Ayden loved helping people in a variety of roles. He enjoyed helping individuals who struggled and helping the community. Ayden loved music and playing the guitar. He was a friend to many people.

Ayden is survived by his son, Hunter Lee Butler; brother, Hank Butler (Shelley) and nephews, Stuart and Jack Butler; sister, Caroline Warner Butler.

A Celebration of Life for Ayden will be held from 1pm-4pm on Saturday, March 23, 2024 in the Jack Bass Memorial Building, Bass-Smith Funeral Home in Hickory, NC.

Memorial contributions may be made to Catawba Valley Health Care, 327 1st Ave NW, Hickory, NC 28601.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



–Liza CG



Sad news. My thoughts and prayers to family and friends.

–Greg Jones



I’m so sorry to hear of Ayden’s passing. I went to FHS and he was always upbeat and had a smile for everyone. Heaven truly has an angel.

–Jennifer Deal Lambert



Wish I could've heard what friends and family had to say about Ayden during the Celebration of Life today. Thinking of you all. Ayden, you were a sweet part of my childhood. I loved to see you grin while we were dancing together. I'll always remember you that way. RIP

—Meredith Lee Colby



We’re praying for you all. We love you guys

—The Eggers



Sorry for your loss. Ayden was just a great soul. Sending love and light to his family.

—Mrs. Burgess



Praying for the Butler family. Special prayers for Hunter during this difficult time.

—The Conleys



Thoughts and prayers going out to the family. Special prayers going out to Hunter during this difficult time.

—The conleys

I didn’t know Ayden well but I always liked his spirit. It made me sad to hear he had passed

—James Isenhower

I played baseball with Ayden at East Carolina and against him while he was in Burke County legion. I was fortunate enough to have chaperoned him around his college visit to Greenville while being recruited. His humor, his curiosity and wide eyes always stood out to me....My condolences and RIP to a teammate and a better soul! !

—John White

I ‘m so sorry to hear about the death of Ayden we work together years ago in Morganton. He was a kind man . Praying for peace and comfort to the entire Bulter Family.

—Gladys Gardin



Gayle, Hunter, Caroline and Hank, Our deepest condolences on the passing of Ayden. He was such a kind soul with so much to give. Even though I lost contact with him when I left public schools, I always thought the world of him. You and your families will be in our thoughts and prayers.

—Kale Wright

Dear Gayle, Caroline and family. My sweet Aiden - gone. I remember him well at Salem School. He was so handsome with those big brown eyes. We connected again when he worked at the fish place on Green St. I encouraged him to come to church, and when he did, I was pleased and always reached out to him. My deepest sympathy on his passing! I wish you strength and comfort in the days ahead. I will pray for you! Nancy and Tom Brown

—Nancy Ferguson Brown

We are so sorry to hear about your loss of Ayden. You are in our thoughts and prayers. We hope for peace for you all.

—Jonathan and Catherine Lowry



Tribute to Ayden I was blessed to have met you Ayden. Your charm, wit and humor paired with a compassionate soul will never be forgotten. I am heartbroken you are gone, but I hope you have found peace my dear . To the family he could never say enough about how proud he was of you all.



Hannah and I are so very sorry for your loss. We are lifting the Butler family up in prayer now and in the days ahead. Love and prayers, Deb and Hannah Bauer

—Debra Hefner Bauer

So very sorry for your loss. Many fond memories of Ayden during teen years. Praying for Gayle, Hank and family and Caroline.

—Jim Belote

Gayle, Hunter, Caroline and Hank, I am so very sorry to hear of Ayden's passing. He was so sweet and fondly remembered. May you all cherish the good times and the memories. Sending my heartfelt condolences.

—Babs



I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Ayden. My heartfelt Condolences to Hank, Caroline and the Rest of your Family. I will continue to pray for you guys - Stay strong- Phil

—Phillip Thomas

From the bottom of my heart, I am so sorry for your loss. Caroline, I am so sorry.

My prayers are with your family. If I can help in any way, please just let me know. Sincerely, Gina Barrier

–Gina Barrier



Gayle, Caroline, Hank and Hunter, My love, thoughts and prayers to you all. I only have great memories of Ayden. Especially growing up visiting Papa and Mama Wilson. I always looked forward to seeing Ayden . May God hold each of you tight during this more than difficult time. - Wilson

–Wilson



Only fond memories with Ayden as a child growing up and leading up to our grandfathers passing in 2001. A 5 Star athlete w/ an infectious smile. Rest easy cousin.-Wilson

–Wilson



Sending love and light to family and friends. Ayden was one of my first childhood friends at Calvary Baptist Preschool. May you rest in eternal peace.

–Heather Beck Lueft



Praying for the Butler family.

–Libby Linker

May GOD surround this family with HIS love during this time! Hank possessed multiple gifts and gave 100% in his goal of helping others. Have not seen Ayden in many years however always impressed by him.

–Ed Hardin

So very sorry, praying for comfort and peace during this very difficult time.

–Michelle McClurd

My sympathy goes out to the Butler family in their loss.

–Brian Bowman



I was so sorry to hear of Ayden passing. He was a great person to work with and always ready to help others. My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this most difficult time.

–Janice Duvio



We shared many days laughing singing and coping with this life. I know now you have eternal life in the arms of Jesus. Til we meet again

–DeVera Powell



Ty, Tripp, and myself are deeply sorry for the sadness your entire family is going through. Tony always said that Ayden was the best athlete to ever come out of Burke County. Our home will always be open for Hunter. Much love, Karen, Ty, and Tripp Causby

—Karen Causby

To the Butler family I am so sorry for your loss. What a huge loss this is. I remember Aiden coming and staying with me and Perry and Caroline in Boone

when he was just a young man going to baseball camp. He was loved by many people. Praying for the Butler family at this time.



My sincere condolences to all of you. Ayden will be missed. I hope he knew how much he was loved by so many.

—Tammy Spake

Prayers for all the family during this difficult time.

—Mike Price

—Tana Fetherbay Thielen

So sorry and shocked to hear this. My prayers and sympathies to your family in this time.

—Robert McGimpsey

Gayle, Hank, Caroline & Hunter, So sorry to hear the passing of Ayden… All of you are in our thoughts and prayers… Love to all, Betty and Randy Biggerstaff

—Betty & Randy Biggerstaff

I am so sorry for this family's loss. My prayers will be with you all. I have many great memories over the years with Ayden. He will be missed.

—John Mast

Ayden was such a sweet spirit and a wonderful person to be around, he was quiet and funny.. I'm so glad I had the pleasure of meeting and working with him. He

will be missed. Please accept my sincere condolences to his son, family, and to all that loved him. He will be missed.

I'm so sorry for the passing of Ayden. Praying for the family

—Kandi Butler

My prayers will be for the family of Ayden through these difficult times. I'm so sorry for the loss. From your old friend Kenny.

—Kenny Coffey

So sorry to hear of his passing. Sending thoughts and prayers to his family and friends.

—Rusty and Tammy Williams

Gayle, I did not know Ayden, but I am so sorry for the loss of your son. May it give you comfort to know you're in my thoughts and prayers.

—Laura McCoy



You will be missed Ayden. Sending you heavenly peace and love. Your friend, Cameron Caldwell

—Cameron Caldwell



—Edna Suttles

—Bruce Carpenter