



Mr. Sam Payne

September 14, 1943 - April 15, 2014

Mr. Sam Millard Payne, age 70, a well-known farmer and businessman of Calhoun, died Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at his residence following an extended illness. He was born in Calhoun at the Johnson-Hall Clinic on September 14, 1943, son of the late Oscar Millard Payne, who died in 1968, and the late Ruth Alice Patterson Payne in 1999.

Sam attended Belwood School and was a 1961 graduate of Calhoun High School. He was a 1963 graduate of Reinhardt College with a BA degree in History, and attended the University of Georgia, pursuing a Masters degree in History. He was owner and operator of Payne Farm and Produce.

Sam was a veteran, serving his country in the US Army, the Army Security Agency, and the National Security Agency from 1966 through 1968. He was a member of Farmville United Methodist Church.

During his lifetime, Sam was active in many associations and boards, including an FFA and 4-H Volunteer Leader; the state 4-H Advisory Board; a Gordon County School Board Member; past president and member of the Red Carpet Cattlemen's Association; past president and member of the Georgia Cattlemen's Association; vice-president of NCBA, Region 2, and had served on various committees of the NCBA; past president of the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce; member of the Gordon County Farm Bureau Board for 31 years; committee member of the GA State Farm Bureau Commodity Board; served on the Governor's Water Conservation Board under Gov. Nathan Deal; a founding member of the Gordon County Young Farmers; past

State Chaplain of Georgia Young Farmers; elected to the North Georgia Regional Development Authority; a board member of the Regional Water Conservation; member of the Georgia Beef Board, and member of the National Beef Check-Off Board; past president of GCYFA; and appointed member of the NWGA Regional Counsel Board.

He leaves behind his wife of 48 years, Eleanor Ann Barrett Payne; a son, Millard Payne; two daughters, Mary Manning and her husband Bruce, and Carla Payne and Scott Bowers, all of Calhoun; grandchildren, Shayna, Breana, and Matthew Manning; Godson, Sonny Fox and his wife Amy and their children, Layla, Kayla, Luke, and Ely; Goddaughters, Sandra Lopez, Bianka Reyes, and Vanessa Smith; and an aunt, Fannie Payne. Nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives also survive.

Services to celebrate the life of Mr. Sam Millard Payne will be held Friday, April 18th at 1:00 PM from the chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home, with Rev. Ralph Kinman and Rev. Guy Kent officiating. Music will be arranged by Burt Jeffords. Interment will follow in the Shoal Creek Baptist Church Cemetery in Waleska, GA with military honors. Active pallbearers will include Sonny Fox, Kevin Smith, Lynn Greeson, Stephen Worley, Leonard Fletcher, Tom Drake, Greg Gillman, and George Kirkland. Honorary pallbearers are Jerry "Smoky" Quinn, R.M. Hice, Ron Glaubitz, Milton Stewart, C.W. Barrett, Jackie Blalock, J.W. Ralston, Charles Holcombe, Julian Holcombe, Dr. Craig Box, Dr. Brent Box, Dr. Will Theus, Young Farmers, Farm Bureau members, and members of the Cattlemen's Association.

The Payne family will receive friends at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home Thursday after 4:00 PM.

Flowers will be accepted or memorial contributions may be made to the Sam Payne Memorial Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 246, Calhoun, GA 30703.

Online condolences may be left at www.maxbrannonandsons.com. Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home is in charge of services for Mr. Sam Millard Payne, age 70 of Calhoun.

Cemetery Details

Shoal Creek

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **15**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home
705 Old Red Bud Road
P.O. Box 1027
Calhoun, GA 30701
(706) 629-4508
eddiebrannon@comcast.net
<https://www.maxbrannonandsons.com/>

Funeral Service

APR **18**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home
705 Old Red Bud Road
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Tribute Wall

NP

“ Ann,
I was sadden to hear about Sam's death. I had seen an ad about school annuals and thought I'd look up the names of a few of my Reinhardt friends. Buddy passed away April 12, 2013. We had been divorced for a lot of years but were still on fairly friendly terms. His last wife has always been kind to our children so I went to the funeral.
I wanted to express my sympathy to you.
Nancy Watts Phillips

Nancy Watts Phillips - July 01, 2014 at 08:59 PM

MO

“ *I was very sorry to read of Sam's death. I attended Calhoun High School with Sam (we both graduated in the class of 1961), and although I can't claim that we were close friends, we talked often. I had spent a good deal of little-boy years on my granddaddy Greene's farm near Ranger, and was proud then, as I am now, of the cotton I picked, the eggs I gathered, and the good people who elevated that hard life to something noble. Even as a high school student, Sam always radiated the kind of decency and solid substance that are earned by regular contact with the earth and its challenges.*
When my beloved step-mother, Ruby Overton, was ill in a Rome hospital and I had rushed home to be with her, I ran into Sam in one of the hospital elevators. I am ashamed to say that I didn't recognize him, but he greeted me at once with the same warm friendship he had showed so many years before. I am thankful and grateful that I had the good fortune to know him. My sympathy and warm remembrance to all his family.

Marcus Overton - May 02, 2014 at 02:09 PM

MF

“ *Mr. Payne was a true gentlemen. He was always so generous when you were around him. You don't forget people like him. I am thankful that he always made my family and myself feel like we were somebody when we came to his place. When ever I eat a strawberry, he will always come to my mind. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.*

matt futch - April 24, 2014 at 10:58 AM

RF

“ *Carla and Ann,
I am sorry to hear about Sam. You guys are in my prayers. Sorry i just could not make it to the funeral home since i had just lost my younger brother on the 9th of April and i just could not bring myself to go. I am so sorry again. Anything we can do you just let us know.
Freddie and Robin Faith*

Robin Faith - April 21, 2014 at 12:01 PM

GC

“ *Ann, sorry to hear about Sam. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Gene and Wanda Cole

Gene and Wanda Cole - April 19, 2014 at 08:22 AM

PO

“ Ann, we were saddened to hear of Sam's passing. We did not know until yesterday when Sue read about it on facebook. Sue and I enjoyed the friendship we had with you and Sam over the years. I am sure you and the family will miss him greatly. He was such a kind and gentle man and always had Gordon County interest at heart.

We wish we could be there to celebrate his life, but were unable to travel at this time.

Love, Phil and Sue Overton

Phil and Sue Overton - April 18, 2014 at 09:31 AM

GH

“ Sending my deepest sympathy and prayers for your strength
Glenn Hayes, past president of Piedmont Cattleman's Association

Glenn Hayes - April 18, 2014 at 08:19 AM

TP

“ Carla and family, so sorry for your loss. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. I didn't know your dad but he seemed to be a man that was thought very well of. God bless all!



Troy & Donna Parker - April 17, 2014 at 09:15 PM

JD

“ All of you are in our thoughts and prayers.
- Joe & Martha Darby and family

jody darby - April 17, 2014 at 07:43 PM

TF

“ *The RT and Ella Ruth Manning Family purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family of Mr. Sam Payne.*



The RT and Ella Ruth Manning Family - April 17, 2014 at 06:41 PM

FB

“ *Freddie And Kaye Black lit a candle in memory of Mr. Sam Payne*



Freddie and Kaye Black - April 17, 2014 at 01:48 PM

FB

Ann, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family!!

Freddie and Kaye Black - April 17, 2014 at 01:49 PM

BB

“ *Ann & family, please know that you are in our prayers. Always enjoyed being with you guys at our meetings. Sam was always so very kind to us.*

Brenda & Benny Brookshire

Benny & Brenda Brookshire - April 17, 2014 at 01:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Sam Payne.*



April 17, 2014 at 01:28 PM



“ *Ann, Carla, and family, May years of happy memories comfort you all now! How great our country would be if all citizens contributed to their community and country the way Sam did! He touched many lives.*

Roger & Janet Greuel

Janet Greuel - April 17, 2014 at 12:37 PM



“ *Sam was a good friend and a mentor to me. The best "cowboy politician" there was! I will miss him.* *Mark Armentrout*

Mark Armentrout - April 17, 2014 at 09:12 AM



“ *I'm glad I was able to know Mr. Payne over the years. He was a great influence in the Ag community and well respected. Our Prayers go out to the Payne Family.*

Karen L. Bradley - Walker County Young Farmers - La Fayette, GA



Karen L. Bradley - April 17, 2014 at 09:11 AM

SL

“ Ann,
My thoughts and prayers go with you and your family
as always,
Love,
Sandra Langston

Sandra Langston - April 17, 2014 at 08:27 AM

BS

“ Our prayers go out to the Payne Family for the loss of Sam.
Barry & Patti Saunders Tyler & Joseph

Barry Saunders - April 17, 2014 at 07:57 AM

MW

“ Mikaylia Wright lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Sam Payne



Mikaylia Wright - April 16, 2014 at 06:41 PM

GC

Ann, sorry to hear about Sam. You and your family are in our
thoughts and prayers.

Gene and Wanda Cole

Gene and Wanda Cole - April 19, 2014 at 08:19 AM

MP

“ Sam was a great supporter of all 4H activities. He & Ann & children were always there when we needed them. He will be missed!
In sympathy,
Mark & Mary Putnam

Mark & Mary Putnam - April 16, 2014 at 06:03 PM

JW

“ I always enjoyed seeing Mr. Sam at Ga. Farm Bureau meetings. He will be missed!
My thoughts & prayers are with your family.
Jennifer Whittaker

Jennifer Whittaker - April 16, 2014 at 05:40 PM

MW

“ I remeber when i was little and we went to Sam an Anns house. They had a longhorn head in the livingroom and Sam told me the rest of his body was on the other side of the wall.

Mikaylia Wright - April 16, 2014 at 04:33 PM

SS

“ My deepest sympathy to your family.
Sandy Smith Rabun Co. Tax Commissioner

Sandy Smith - April 16, 2014 at 04:16 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with entire Sam Payne Family. I remember Sammy and I going up to Calhoun to get his famous corn and fresh vegetables. He and Sammy would laugh and talk, chatting about everything from cattle and donkeys to veggies and Calhoun in general. We lost great pioneer in agriculture.*
Sammy and Wendy Simmons

Wendy Simmons - April 16, 2014 at 03:07 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to your family. We have many fond memories of Sam from cattle conventions in the past. He will be missed by many. Melodie and Lane Holton*

Melodie Holton - April 16, 2014 at 02:46 PM



“ *Donna Baker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Sam Payne*



Donna Baker - April 16, 2014 at 01:12 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. You all are in our thoughts and prayers. Sam will be missed.*

Sheila Wheat - April 16, 2014 at 11:37 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers for your family. Harry Stacy Farms.*

Melanie Holbrook - April 16, 2014 at 08:05 AM

RS

“ So sorry for your loss our prayers are with you all
Love ,Roger and Shyrel Serritt. (Calhoun Farm Supply)



Roger & Shyrel Serritt - April 16, 2014 at 07:29 AM

SC

“ We met Sam and Ann for the first time in Milwaukee WI on a Farm Bureau conference. Such a sweet family, we became great friends and over the years have gotten to be together at lots of functions. Sam will surely be missed by us and all of our Farm Bureau families. Our prayers go out to Ann and his family. May God lift you up in this time of loss.



Sue Cuzzort - April 16, 2014 at 07:28 AM

GB

“ Geraldine Bennett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Sam Payne



Geraldine Bennett - April 16, 2014 at 06:42 AM

GB

Ann and Family - I am so sorry for your loss. Sam was a fine man and I enjoyed working with him many years ago. He will be missed.

Geraldine Bennett - April 16, 2014 at 06:44 AM

HB

“ *Our love and Prayers with Ann and the children...*

Howard and Brenda Brock - April 15, 2014 at 08:47 PM

MS

“ *We are so sorry to hear about the loss of Sam. He was a very good friend of ours. Sam will be missed.*

Martha & Robert Smith - April 15, 2014 at 04:40 PM